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22 PAGES 150 FILLS



Charging up

Black protesters raise their fists as Winnie Mandela (inset) asks them who were in the ANC during a rally of several thousand people in Johannesburg's Alexandra township. The rally was the first after South African President F.W. de Klerk unbanned the African National Congress. (Reuters wirephoto)

Water is thicker than feud

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (AP): Iraq and Syria were reported today to have put aside their long-standing feud by holding meetings to discuss Turkey's cutoff of the Euphrates River.

A local Arabic daily, quoting Arab diplomatic sources, said Iraqi and Syrian officials held four meetings in Baghdad and Damascus over the past two weeks to "co-ordinate" their response.

The sources, who were not further identified, were quoted as saying the meetings represented "a positive development" for the future of relations between the two Arab countries.

The identities or government rank of the officials were not disclosed. There was no immediate official reaction to the Kuwaiti report from either Iraq or Syria.

But an Arab diplomat in Baghdad, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Deputy Foreign Minister Nizar Hamdoun was in Damascus during the third week of January to discuss the issue.

Turkey diverted much of the Euphrates water for a month, beginning Jan 13, to fill the reservoir at the Ataturk Dam.

Weather

CLOUDY weather continues with moderate northerly to northeasterly wind.

State of sea: Moderate
High water: 8.00 am, 9.00 pm
Low water: 12.00 noon, 12.00 am
Sunrise: 6.36 am
Sunset: 5.29 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 13°C 55°F
Ahmad: 13°C 55°F
Fahaka: 13°C 55°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 6°C 43°F
Ahmad: 8°C 47°F
Fahaka: 10°C 50°F

Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 89 per cent
Ahmad: 80 per cent
Fahaka: 90 per cent

Mandela release Obstacles remain

PAARL, South Africa, Feb 4, (UPI): The wife of jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela said today "obstacles" still stood in the way of her husband's release from life imprisonment, including President Frederik de Klerk's failure to lift a 43-month-old state of emergency in its entirety.

"The obstacles still exist and it is Mr de Klerk who must remove these obstacles," Winnie Mandela said after a five-hour visit to with the African National Congress leaders at the Victor Verster Prison in the scenic Cape wine-growing region of Paarl.

She said her husband was drafting a statement in response to De Klerk's address to Parliament on Friday and his racial reform initiatives. But it was unclear when or how it would be distributed.

De Klerk has accepted an invitation to visit British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher later this year, his office said today. (See Page 5)

Strike disrupts life in Kashmir

Bomb, arson attacks

SRINAGAR, Feb 4, (UPI): A strike called by Muslim separatists today paralysed life across strife-torn Kashmir for a second day amid scattered bomb and arson attacks by pro-secession militants that caused damage but no injuries, police and witnesses said.

Curfews since Jan 20 in Srinagar and other major Kashmir towns were relaxed for 12 hours beginning at 5 am but because of the strike, streets remained largely deserted of traffic and people. Most shops stayed closed.

The strike was called by underground Muslim separatist groups to coincide with a "solidarity week" of rallies and processions that began on Friday in Pakistan, sponsored by the Islamabad government, in support of the independence movement in India's side of Kashmir.

In Srinagar, police and witnesses said a powerful bomb planted by radicals exploded inside a bus at about 8 am, just minutes after about 30 passengers disembarked following its arrival in the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, north of New Delhi.

The blast completely destroyed the vehicle and damaged several shops, but there were no injuries, according to Deputy Police Inspector General S.S. Ali.

Ali also confirmed witness reports that militants hurled two hand grenades at paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force officers in downtown Srinagar.

The officer said a militant bomb damaged a state bank in the Kashmir valley town of Pattan, but also caused no casualties.

A spokesman for the Srinagar fire department said that radicals last night set ablaze a state secondary school in the city's Nawakadal area. The school was completely destroyed, he said.

Tens of thousands of police and paramilitary troops were deployed in the Kashmir valley, the region's main population centre, after security force searches on Jan 20 ignited widespread protests that were dispersed by gunfire.

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (Agencies): The government called on the Soviet Union today to take urgent measures to halt the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, describing the process as a "flagrant aggression" against the Arab world.

A statement issued after the weekly cabinet session chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, reminded Moscow of its close links with the Arab world.

It said failure to stem the emigration flow would cast doubt on the credibility of "the concerned parties" seeking to promote a Middle East settlement. These include the Soviet Union.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said last month he expected some 300,000 Soviet Jews to settle in the Israeli-held West Bank and Gaza Strip over the next few years.

"The Kuwaiti government followed

with extreme concern the news of intensive emigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories, considering it a direct encouragement to the expansionist policies of the Israeli leadership and Zionist settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip," said Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashid.

HH the Amir of Kuwait will pay an official visit to Muscat Feb 10-12 at the invitation of Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Bin Awali today handed President Saddam Hussein of Iraq a message on Gulf peace from Sultan Qaboos, the Iraqi News Agency said.

Diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Alawi was exploring the possibility of mediation in stalled peace talks between Iraq and Iran by the Gulf Co-operation Council.

(See Page 9)

Amir to visit Oman; Alawi in Gulf talks

Halt Jewish flow, Kuwait urges

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (Agencies): The government called on the Soviet Union today to take urgent measures to halt the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, describing the process as a "flagrant aggression" against the Arab world.

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Hand-to-hand fight

Aoun claims capture of vital town as battle escalates

BEIRUT, Feb 4, (Agencies): Rival Christian forces battled with tanks in burning East Beirut and were locked in hand-to-hand combat for a key coastal town today as a savage six-day-old showdown for control of Lebanon's Christian enclave escalated.

Rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's headquarters claimed his forces captured the town of Dbaye, five miles (eight kms) north of Beirut from the Lebanese Forces militia, while his troops were

battling to seize the militia's headquarters in East Beirut. Police said 210 people have been killed and 1,000 wounded since Tuesday.

Aoun's command claimed helicopter-borne paratroopers of the Army's 10th brigade overran Dbaye in 12 hours of close-quarter combat.

But a communique issued by the militia, commanded by Christian warlord Samir Geagea, said the defenders beat off 10 tank-supported

"What happened today in Dbaye is a turning point... the attackers retreated," he said on Voice of Lebanon radio.

A Reuters correspondent at the scene said: "I can see burned and abandoned military vehicles on the highway. There is smoke rising from Lebanese barracks. Most buildings along the roads have been hit. Some have been turned black by flames and smoke."

He said it was then still unclear who had gained the upper hand.

Aoun's Channel-5 television station broadcast film showing paratroopers occupying what it said was the Lebanese Forces base in Dbaye and a nearby training camp.

The soldiers were shown inspecting dozens of smashed jeeps and armoured personnel carriers bearing the Lebanese Forces insignia in the town, which has a makeshift harbour.

Dbaye's capture would enable Aoun's forces to rise the port to interdict the militia's maritime supply line from the northern ports of Jounieh and Byblos to its beleaguered seaside headquarters in East Beirut's Karantina district.

Aoun's troops cut the militia's overseas supply line in the early stages of the fighting when they seized an eight-mile (10-km) strip of the coastal highway linking the capital and north Lebanon.

In East Beirut, shrouded by black smoke from burning buildings blazing out of control, Aoun's tank-led troops were fighting, often at point-blank range, to smash through the Lebanese Forces' defences in a two-pronged assault on Geagea's headquarters.

But diarch militiamen firing rocket-propelled grenades and jeep-mounted armour-piercing 106mm cannons were holding off Aoun's armour rumbling through the devastated streets, police reported.

One thrust was aimed through the Dora industrial district on the city's northern outskirts, the other through the working class Ain Rummaneh quarter on Beirut's northeastern fringe, police reported.

Two oil tanks at his sprawling Dora fuel depot were set on fire during the clashes that raged despite renewed ceasefire appeals.

Pillars of flame shot skywards and clouds of black smoke billowed over the embattled sector.

Aoun unleashed the assault on Karantina with US-made M-48 and French-built AMX-13 tanks at dawn after a night-long artillery bombardment in an apparent bid to crush Geagea to become the undisputed master of the enclave north of Beirut.

Hundreds of shells and rockets landed in Muslim West Beirut, which has not been involved in the fighting, police said.

Italian diplomats in Cyprus reported that Italy's Ambassador to Lebanon, Antonio Mancini, 61, died today during the bombardment.

Israelis killed in Egypt bus attack

CAIRO, Feb 4, (Reuters): Masked gunmen killed ten Israelis and wounded seven today when they attacked a tourist bus near Cairo with machine-guns and grenades, police said.

Police said the dead and wounded were taken to hospital in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis.

200,000 rally in Kremlin

MOSCOW, Feb 4, (Agencies): Two hundred thousand people massed outside the Kremlin today to demand radical political reforms in Moscow's biggest unofficial rally since the 1920s.

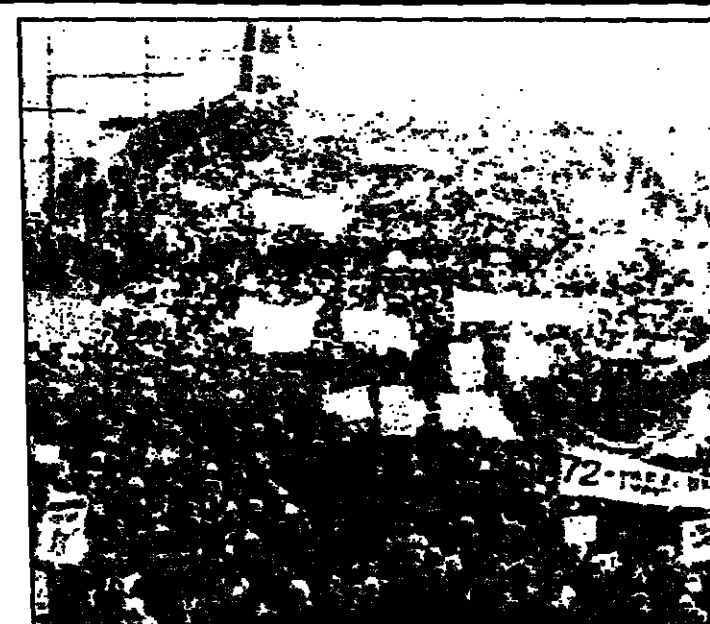
The march and demonstration near the seat of Soviet power, organised by reformist and national groups, piled pressure on the Communist Party leadership as it prepared for a key meeting this week that could end its constitutional monopoly on power.

"Things cannot continue as they are. At this plenum the party has been given one last chance," radical leader Boris Yeltsin, a former member of the party's ruling Politburo, told the vast crowd.

"It is necessary to restructure the Communist Party. There must not be a party monopoly on power," said Yeltsin, pledging to represent the voice of the people at the two-day meeting of the party's policy-making Central Committee starting tomorrow.

As Yeltsin spoke, a rainbow of national flags and banners waved over the crowd, gathered in the huge Manez Square facing the Kremlin. The rally had been planned for the nearby Soviet Square but was moved to accommodate the big crowd, estimated by a police major at 200,000.

(Continued on Page 7)



Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators cross the Moskva river on Krymsky bridge in Moscow. (Reuters wirephoto)

Slovenians split

Yugoslav reds in disarray

LIJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, Feb 4, (AP): Slovenia's liberal communists decided today to pull out of the national Communist Party, further weakening the influence of Yugoslavia's ruling body.

The landmark decision to reorganise as a social democratic-type party came at an emergency conference of the Communist Party of Slovenia, the most Western-oriented of Yugoslavia's six republics.

Yugoslavia's League of Communists, as the federal party is officially known, "doesn't exist any more for us," said Petar Bekes, a member of the Slovenian Party leadership.

Slovenian Communist Party chief Ciril Ribicic said his party was not seeking Slovenian secession but the establishment of a Yugoslav confederation in which central authority would be restricted even more than at present.

"This is the end of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, in which

(Continued on Page 7)

Storms kill 21

PARIS, Feb 4, (Reuters): Violent winds which swept across France yesterday killed 21 people, injured dozens and left scenes of devastation in their wake, emergency services said today.

The high winds had calmed by today and the sun shone brightly but firemen who worked throughout the night said they were still being inundated with emergency calls.

A spokesman said fire rescue services had been called out 8,000 times since noon yesterday.

At least 11 victims were in the Paris region, many of them killed by falling trees and debris. One woman was speared through the head by a metal shutter bar dislodged by winds gusting up to 150 kph (90 mph).

The winds blew roofs off houses, caused power cuts, blew down telephone lines and brought trains and airplanes to a halt.

The two main Paris airports were forced to shut for several hours yesterday afternoon and the domestic French airline Air Inter suspended most flights.

An airport spokeswoman said the situation was back to normal today.

Trains were also running normally after services were suspended yesterday on several inter-city and suburban routes.

At least eight people died throughout the rest of France, including a lorry driver who was crushed to death when winds overturned his vehicle near the western French town of Rennes.

Committees to enlist voters

THE Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah issued a decision yesterday ordering the formation of voters registration committees for National Assembly elections.

The decision was published yesterday in the official gazette, Kuwait Al Youm.

Kuwait is divided into 25 constituencies. Two deputies are elected from each to form the 50-member chamber.

The decision also included names of constituencies, names of members of registration committees and their locations.

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Details inside page

Girl, 16, receives artificial lung

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Feb. 4, (Reuters): A 16-year-old girl who was struggling for breath because of badly damaged lungs had a temporary artificial lung implanted into her body in the first operation of its kind, officials and medical sources said yesterday.

A spokesman for LDS (Latter Day Saints) Hospital confirmed that a two-hour lung transplant operation was performed there on Friday and said the patient was in critical condition.

The spokesman, Richard Nash, however, would not identify the patient and would not reveal any more information on the patient's condition. However, sources said the patient was a 16-year-old girl with breathing problems.

The device, called the Intravascular Oxygenator (Ivox), is a bundle of hollow tubes or fibres through which oxygen is pumped into the blood. It was inserted into the patient's vein, a large vein which brings blood to the heart, Nash said. Small tubes from the body feed in the oxygen.

"The Ivox is designed to tide time and to create a climate in which the lung can heal itself," Nash said. "It handles the equivalent of about half a person's normal breathing capacity, giving a boost to patients suffering from respiratory problems."

The operation in the city where Dr. Barney Clark, a dentist, became the first person to receive a permanent artificial heart seven years ago — was performed by cardiovascular surgeon Roger Millar. The hospital is one of only four in the United States allowed to take part in clinical trials of the device.

The chief developer of Ivox is Dr. J.D. Mortensen, a Utah surgeon who retired from practice 10 years ago to develop his device.

Dr. Terry Clemmer, a principal investigator for the Ivox device, said at a hospital news conference yesterday the device could not be considered a complete artificial lung.

20,000 file nomination for state polls in India

From Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Feb. 4: The curtain dropped on the first phase of this month's crucial assembly elections in eight Indian states and one union territory when filing of nominations drew to a close yesterday.

Preliminary information reaching the capital showed that more than 20,000 candidates had filed their papers for the elections on Feb. 27. Nomina-

tions also closed yesterday for the by-elections to two Lok Sabha and 10 assembly seats. Polling will also be held simultaneously for three Lok Sabha and seven assembly constituencies, where elections had been countermanded during the November general elections.

The Congress (I), which was ousted from power at the centre in the last general elections, is currently ruling in all the eight states and the union

territory of Pondicherry going to the polls. The party is going it alone this time, with only some minor adjustments with other parties for some seats.

Though filing of nominations has ended, a clear picture of the final contest failed to emerge with the Janata Dal and the Bharatiya Janata Party still carrying on negotiations for seat adjustments in Bihar and Gujarat. In Gujarat, talks between the two parties ran into some trouble with both claim-

ing the lion's share of the seats at stake on the strength of their performance in the general elections.

The BJP and the Janata Dal have reached an understanding on seat adjustments in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. In Rajasthan, the agreement between the two is to fight 80 seats each out of the 200 seats and continue talks for the remaining 40 seats. The Janata Dal has also reached an understanding with the

leftist parties in Orissa and Maharashtra, where it has no arrangement with the BJP. Like the November elections, the effort of the National Front and its allies is to put up a united front against the Congress this time also.

Among the prominent candidates who have filed their nominations are: Sharad Pawar (Maharashtra), Virbhadra Singh (Himachal Pradesh), Madhavsingh Solanki (Gujarat),

M.O.H. Farooq (Pondicherry), Om Prakash Chautala (Haryana) and Gegong Apang (Arunachal Pradesh).

More than 215 million voters are eligible to cast their votes in Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Pondicherry.

Counting of votes will begin on Feb. 28 and the first results are expected to be known by evening.

100 people kidnapped in Karachi: Rival student groups kidnapped more than 100 people in Karachi in the past 24 hours, police in Pakistan's largest city said on Sunday.

Most of those kidnapped were students and some were released after torture, police said.

A Sind province government spokesman said most victims were supporters of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party and accused the militant Mughajir National Movement (MQM). (Reuters)

Armed men rob war museum: Armed men entered the war museum and stole two bazookas on Saturday which a Defence Ministry announcement said could be operable after slight modifications.

Witnesses told police that five men wielding pistols entered the museum located on fashionable Queen Sophia Avenue at 9:45 am (0745 GMT). (Reuters)

Human error blamed in train wreck: Investigators on Saturday blamed human error for a head-on collision of two packed commuter trains that killed 16 and injured 86 in Rueselsheim, West Germany.

The driver of one train was among the fatalities, and the second engineer, said by investigators to have driven through a stoplight, was too seriously injured to be questioned, police and railroad authorities reported.

Wulf Feilich of the regional prosecutor's office in Darmstadt said human error was the cause of the accident during the busy Friday night rush hour in Rueselsheim, a suburb of Frankfurt. (AP)

Cocaine seized at Heathrow airport: Police and customs officials have seized 58 million (\$15 million) worth of cocaine that arrived from Colombia and arrested eight men, a customs spokesman said.

The 40 kilograms (88 pounds) of cocaine came into London's Heathrow airport on Saturday on a British Airways flight from Bogota, concealed in a consignment of brassware, the spokesman said.

The consignment was taken to a warehouse near London, where five men were arrested. Three more were later arrested in London, he said. All were British. (AP)

Diplomat dispute resolved: Britain and the Soviet Union have resolved a dispute over the number of diplomats and other representatives each



Storm kills 19

Hoarding lay strewn on the ground in the western town of Nantes, following a violent storm which hit northern France. Nineteen people were killed, mostly in Paris and the West in the storm which raged for several hours. (Reuters wirephoto)

can have in the other's country, the British Foreign Office said.

Under the deal announced Friday, the present limit of 205 each will remain for the time being but a Foreign Office statement added: "We have now agreed to work toward a state of relations where limitations will no longer be necessary."

Poster grim reminder of Sinn Féin: At the Sinn Féin Party conference, the photo on the wall of 20-year-old James Connolly offered a grim reminder that so many who join the Irish Republican Army may end up in a cell or a cemetery.

Connolly was blown up last January by a bomb he was planting. Next to the somber black and white poster of the dead young bomber was a picture of Gerry Casey.

Criminal charges against Moros

COTABATO, Philippines, Feb. 4, (Agencies): The military announced yesterday it has filed criminal charges against Muslim rebels believed responsible for last week's attack on predominantly Christian villages that killed eight people and drove thousands from their homes.

Charges of multiple murder, rebellion, kidnapping, robbery, cattle rustling and rape were filed on Friday against leaders of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said army regional commander Brig. Gen. Orlando Soriano.

A court judge immediately issued arrest warrants for Hashim Badawi, vice chief of staff of the Moro Front, and 10 other local commanders following the filing of the charges, Soriano said.

The military also has put up a 150,000-peso (\$6,690) for Hashim's arrest, he added.

On Jan. 28, suspected Muslim rebels simultaneously attacked several villages on the outskirts of Pikit town in north Cotabato province, about 48 kilometres (30 miles) east of this city and about 890 kilometres (555 miles) southeast of Manila.

Village defenders and government reinforcements turned back attackers after several sporadic clashes that lasted for two days and left eight people dead and more than 24,000 living in Pikit and two adjoining towns fleeing their homes.

More than 500 houses were razed and about 7,000 cattle were lost during the attack.

In an interview last week, Hashim denied that his group was responsible for the attack, saying it was launched by an independent group of "aggrieved Muslims who want justice."

At least 29 people have been killed in weeklong fighting between separatist Muslim rebels and government troops in southern Philippines, the military said today.

Brig. Gen. Guernardo Yap, army battalion commander, said troops have fished out 500 Muslim rebels who attacked eight villages in the town of Pikit, north Cotabato, 500 miles (800 km) south of Manila starting Jan. 26.

The military office of civil defence said 29 people have been killed, two were injured and five others were missing and may have been kidnapped by the rebels. It said the fighting also forced the evacuation of 42,411 people.

The Philippine military today raised the reward for the capture of coup leader Gregorio Honasan to five million pesos (\$227,272) amid threats that a new rebellion may be brewing.

Honasan and some 1,000 mutineers still at large are believed responsible for the coup attempt that almost toppled the four-year government of Corason Aquino in December.

Police said a 300-man elite police force was being trained in case the threats proved true.

The bounty for Honasan, the highest ever offered in the Philippines for the capture of a single fugitive, was a sharp increase over the one million peso (\$47,600) reward offered last month for the arrest of either Honasan or any of five other top mutineers.

One of the six, police Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abesada, was captured Jan. 29, the military said a reward was paid after Abesada's capture but declined to identify the recipient for his own protection.

National police chief Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano said the additional bounty money was raised by businessmen who feared a new coup attempt would ruin the economy still reeling from the impact of the Dec. 1-9 rebellion.

India offers to train Lankans

Worst is over: Premadasa

COLOMBO, Feb. 4, (Reuters): India has proposed in a draft friendship treaty with Sri Lanka that it provide training and arms for Colombo's security forces, the independent Sunday Times newspaper reported.

"The government of India in a spirit of friendship and co-operation will provide training facilities and military supplies for Sri Lankan security forces at the request of the government of Sri Lanka," the newspaper quoted a draft treaty by India as saying.

But a draft provided by Sri Lanka, also published in the newspaper, did not contain this provision.

Military sources said that at present Sri Lankan security personnel received training in India and Pakistan. Arms and ammunition are mainly purchased from China and the West.

Officials of both countries are now studying the drafts, which will be made into a joint treaty to be signed soon. It will replace a 1987 accord between the two countries.

The Sunday Times, giving details of the drafts for the first time in the local press, quoted the Indian draft as saying that "each contracting party will respect the independence, unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the other and refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of the other."

The Sri Lankan draft said both countries would agree that each country will not permit its territory to be used by any person to commit terrorist activities or to advocate separatism in the other.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa, celebrating the 42nd anniversary of his troubled nation's independence, said today the worst was over and peace and prosperity lie ahead.

But the top opposition leader, former prime minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, scathingly questioned what there was to celebrate.

"When our country has earned the reputation of being one where crime and violence have reached barbaric proportions, can anyone other than those in power celebrate independence?" Mrs. Bandaranaike asked in a statement published in Sri Lankan newspapers today.

Premadasa, speaking at Colombo's Independence Square, conceded 1989 was a "trying period." But in his anniversary message to the nation, he said: "Our people have clearly indicated they will never allow intimidation, bloodletting and violence to destroy democracy."

"When fear of death looms large in the minds of many people, when thousands have died by the roadside with bodies of youths being burnt or left mutilated and hundreds of corpses float down rivers, who can celebrate independence?" the leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party asked in her published statement.

Premadasa, who was greeted by singing girls and a 25-gun salute at Independence Square, asserted that his government had achieved success in resolving Sri Lanka's tangled conflicts.

Meanwhile, a bomb exploded in a graveyard in Trincomalee in the east as the government-appointed governor of the north-east province, Nalin Senewiratne, hoisted the national flag in a nearby area.

No one was injured in the blast. The ceremony was watched by Sri Lankan and Indian soldiers.



Premadasa speaks during an Independence Day address in Colombo. (Reuters wirephoto)

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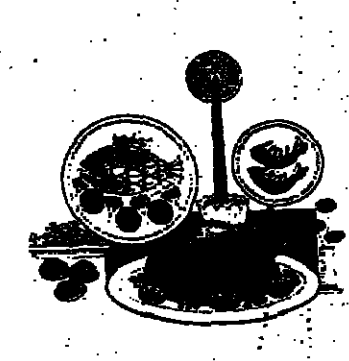


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Rushdie defends 'Satanic Verses'

Admits causing Muslims pain

LONDON, Feb 4, (AP): Author Salman Rushdie defended his controversial novel "The Satanic Verses" in an essay published in a Sunday newspaper, and admitted that it has caused Muslims pain.

The 7,000 word essay is Rushdie's first defence of the book since the late Ayatollah Khomeini's Feb 14, 1989, edict calling for Rushdie's death for blaspheming Islam with the world. Since then Rushdie has been in hiding.

"I should like to ask Muslims — that great mass of inappropriate, to be described as some sort of a heretic after having lived my life as a secular, pluralist, eclectic man," wrote Rushdie, 42.

"I do not accept the charge of blasphemy, because as somebody says in The Satanic Verses, 'where there is no belief, there is no blasphemy'." Rushdie wrote. He said the essay was "The hardest piece of writing I've ever done."

In The Independent today, literary editor Blake Morrison reported that Rushdie looked "healthy and relaxed" when they met Wednesday at an undisclosed location in England.

Morrison wrote that Rushdie had overcome earlier problems writing while living under the protection of Scotland Yard and had almost finished a children's book. Morrison said Rushdie missed doing ordinary things like going to films and bookshops.

"He's coping terrifically well, but let's not pretend, he's obviously been under appalling strain as any of us would be," Morrison told British Broadcasting Corp. radio.

Rushdie wrote in the essay, entitled, "In Good Faith," that he regrets that offence has been taken, but added that it is now too late to change the text.

"I recognise that many Muslims have felt shocked and pained, too. Perhaps a way forward might be found through the mutual recognition of that mutual pain," he wrote in the essay.

In the Sunday edition of The Independent, editor Stephen Glover said the piece was intended to defuse tensions.

"I don't think he is apologising for the book but I think that he is trying to explain, particularly to the Muslim community in this country, that no blasphemy was intended. It was after all a work of fiction and not a work of fact," Glover said in an interview with London Broadcasting Corp. radio.

In an editorial article The Independent today reported Rushdie would not object to a prefatory note to a paperback edition explaining that "The Satanic Verses" is fiction.

The newspaper reported that Rushdie was considering translating the essay, published today into the various languages of the Muslim community.

ordinary, decent, fair-minded Muslims ... to renounce blood; not to let Muslim leaders make Muslims seem less tolerant than they are." Rushdie wrote in the copyrighted essay.

Rushdie, born into a Muslim family in India and now a British citizen, wrote in The Independent yesterday that he does not consider his novel blasphemous.

"I am not a Muslim. It feels bizarre, and wholly



Salman Rushdie shown here holding his book 'The Satanic Verses'. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fear in hiding

'Damage is huge'

NEW YORK, Feb 4, (AP): Author Salman Rushdie said nearly a year in hiding has been lonely, with his only company "people with guns" — his protectors. Rushdie went into hiding last Feb 14 after the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran condemned him to death for his book, "The Satanic Verses," which many Muslims believe blasphemes Islam.

In a telephone interview with Newsweek magazine, he said he originally didn't expect his seclusion to last more than a couple of weeks.

The interview is to appear in Newsweek's Feb 12 issue, available on newsstands tomorrow.

It was only gradually that I began to feel that the damage that had been done was so huge that it was going to take an awful lot of undoing," Rushdie said. "I think one of the problems of unleashing this quantity of hatred is that it's very difficult to put it back in the box."

Rushdie, living under the protection of Scotland Yard, said he fled with just the clothes on his back, though he has since received books and personal belongings.

Rushdie has written book reviews but says that for three months he wrote little else except for "some poems" and a journal. He then began writing a previously planned book for children.

Rushdie said he's lucky to be accustomed to spending long periods alone and spends most of his days working. He said he misses things like grocery shopping and going to movies.

"I find myself watching a lot of bad television and videos," he said. "And that's about it, except that instead of being entirely by myself, I've got a number of guests around. People with guns."

He's learned to "become chatty on the telephone," noting that he can choose whom he calls — though the chosen often need to be convinced it's really him.

Rushdie said his wife, American novelist Marianne Wiggins, who left their hiding place in July, "has actually taken more of the weight of this than any other human being, and in many ways still is."

Friends call the separation a "mutual breakup." Ms Wiggins publishes say only that she wants to be left alone and does not know where Rushdie now lives.

Rushdie said he feels a paperback edition of "The Satanic Verses" should be issued. "I see this as an innocent book, wrongly accused and much persecuted," he said.

He also said he has no intention of trying to change his identity.

"I simply will not accept that this is going to be the rest of my life — I have to remain an optimist in the sense of believing that solutions are possible."

Bradford phone book

Causing a stir

LONDON, Feb 4, (AP): A telephone directory is causing a bit of a stir in northern England.

The cover painting for the Bradford City directory was done by famed contemporary artist David Hockney, a Bradford native who now lives in Los Angeles.

Hockney fans are delighted with his colourful, childlike painting of the Yorkshire City of 460,000. But some Bradfordians prefer the previous edition's picture-postcard views of cathedral, castle and surrounding moors, and they have been venting their irritation in letters to the press.

"The lenses are all of the same ilk ... my grandchild could do a similar job," said Malcolm Huddy, editor of the West Yorkshire Telegraph and Argus.

Vera G. Taylor wrote: "What an insult to print this outrageous piece of so-called art on our telephone directory."

"Who do they think they are kidding? not me."

"I have seen better drawings in our local first schools."

Huddy admits he wouldn't recognise his home town from Hockney's painting, but he has little time for the critics.

"Whenever Hockney paints anything that makes any kind of news you get the same people writing in," Huddy said. "They're the same ones who are wondering why Picasso put an eye under an armpit."

"But what a lot of people tend to forget is that Hockney did this for no charge. It's not costing anybody anything and they're getting a phone book with a Hockney picture on its under the door for free," Huddy said.

Hockney supporters point out that the painter not only is a living rebuttal of Yorkshire's reputation for low-brow dourness, but has stayed in touch with Bradford despite having lived in Los Angeles for 25 years.

The 51-year-old artist has participated in other civic projects, designing the cover for a handbook for the disabled and a "Bradford's Bouncing Back" poster for a campaign to reinvigorate the unemployment-hit industrial city.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

LEXINGTON, Kentucky: Country music singer Wynonna Jett is singing a different tune since gaining a high school equivalency diploma: "Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Dropouts."

Jennings was to accept his General Educational Development (GED) certificate from Kentucky First Lady Martha Wilkinson at the Capitol in Frankfort Monday.

He enrolled in Kentucky educational television's "GED on TV" programme last fall after talking over the idea with Mrs. Wilkinson, the wife of Governor Wallace Wilkinson. He passed the examination in December after studying tapes on his tour bus.

Mrs. Wilkinson said Jennings, whose hits include "Mama, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Dropouts" (with Willie Nelson), was ecstatic when he had learned he had passed.

"I've got to admit, I don't think I've ever talked to a teen-ager more excited," Mrs. Wilkinson said. "He was on the phone, 'I really did it' and it actually was a yell." (AP)

NEW YORK: Actress Marlee Matlin, who is deaf, says she would like to hear music or talk on the phone but does not mind not being able to hear "people talking."

In fact, she says, "if I woke up one day and I became hearing, I think I would freak."

"I'm used to the silence. The quiet sounds. And that's what I like," she said in an interview with author, neurologist Oliver Sacks in the February issue of Self magazine.

Sacks' latest book, "Seeing Voices," explores how deaf people use sign language as a linguistic tool. Another Sacks book, "Awakenings," is being made into a movie, starring Robin Williams and Robert Niles.

Sacks, whose next project will involve artists with neurological disabilities, asked Matlin if she thought her deafness gave her acting "a special quality."

"I think my biggest advantage in some respects is to be deaf," Matlin said. "Because I can translate the art of seeing it instead of listening to it." (AP)

TOKYO: Police in southwestern Japan on Sunday arrested a man they believe strangled his neighbour because she refused to clean up after several cats.

Masaru Himuro turned himself in to police after using a small bath towel to strangle 70-year-old Shizuko Izu early Sunday morning, said a police official in Fukuoka, a city of the southwestern island of Kyushu.

Kyodo News Service reported that Himuro, 60, began drinking after losing money while gambling Saturday evening. It said that at around midnight he went to Izu's apartment to complain that she had not cleaned up the excrement of five or six stray cats she often fed.

The report said that Izu refused to apologise or remove the cats' food in the yard and threw a flower pot. Himuro then flew into a rage and killed her, it said.

The police officer said Himuro was arrested for the murder, but refused to comment on his motive. (AP)

HACCOURT, Belgium: Proud of their village's grisly history as a capital of witchcraft, the residents of Haccourt have dedicated a monument to the memory of women burned at the stake there.

Women accused of being witches were regularly burned to death during the 16th and 17th centuries in this village in southern Belgium.

A group of 200 villagers erected a black statue four feet (1.2 metres) high in the central square on Saturday and burned a 15-foot (4.5-metre) dummy of a witch.

They have formed a folklore group. Broomsacks and witches' robes and masks are de rigueur at meetings.

"We are just a bunch of friends who like to get together and parade in our uniforms," said head witch Lisette Kyo. (Reuters)

Local residents, shopkeepers and state-run Eng-

NASHVILLE, Tennessee: New Kids on the Block, the most popular teenage pop group since the Jacksons and Menesee, say they want to be role models for the youth of today.

"A lot of people associate musicians with drugs, and craziness, and being bad people," said New Kids lead singer, 20, "Daddy Wood, 19, said in an interview published in the Sunday edition of the newspaper the Tennesseean.

The other members of the quintet are Donnie Wahlberg, 20, the group's oldest member, Jordan Knight, 18, and Joe McIntyre, who was 12 when he joined in 1984. (AP)

TOKYO: A Japanese store is trying to spice up its annual sales by selling bras and panties, like chocolates, by the gram.

The Higurama Store in Kobe, which is offering ladies' underwear and swimwear for 60 yen (40 cents) a gram, says the gimmick adds a bit of mystery to shopping.

Much of the stock is filmy, feather-light lingerie, which, sales staff told reporters last week, makes for great bargains. (Reuters)

NAIROBI: President Daniel Arap Moi said today he was satisfied with Kenya's relations with the US government and "we are now starting to be good friends."

Moi did not elaborate, but some in Congress have sharply criticised Kenya for its human-rights record, accusations the Kenyan leader described in Washington as "imaginary things."

"I managed to meet leaders in government and from various states and I am satisfied our views were heard and relations are good," Moi said.

Moi spoke on arrival from a weeklong unofficial visit to the United States where he met government officials, legislators, and officials from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

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Free dance

Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko of the USSR during their free dance at the European figure skating championship Feb. They won the ice-dancing title. (Reuters wirephoto) (See Page 20)

Bandits make off with old artifacts

NAPLES, Feb 4, (AP): Masked bandits bound and gagged guards at Herculaneum, a Roman city destroyed by the Vesuvius volcano in 79 AD, and stole hundreds of treasures, including bronze statues, vases and jewellery, reports said yesterday.

Baldassare Conticello, the superintendent of the archaeological area of Herculaneum and nearby Pompeii, said the inventory of the stolen goods was still incomplete, the Italian news agency Agi reported.

But the missing items included about 200 gold bracelets and earrings, a 1st-century bronze vase in the form of a woman's head and a 80-cm-high (32-inch-high) silver-and-copper inlaid bronze statue of Bacchus, he said.

In the early morning hours of yesterday, at least four armed bandits wearing ski masks surprised four night watchmen in their station, investigators said.

Gunpoint

The custodians were forced at gunpoint to turn over the keys to a building that houses hundreds of artefacts, Agi said. The custodians were tied up and their mouths taped with bandages, the agency said.

After a few hours, one of the guards was able to free himself and sounded an alarm, Agi said.

Conticello said sale of the stolen goods would be difficult since they were catalogued, but it was possible someone had commissioned the holdup to enrich a personal collection.

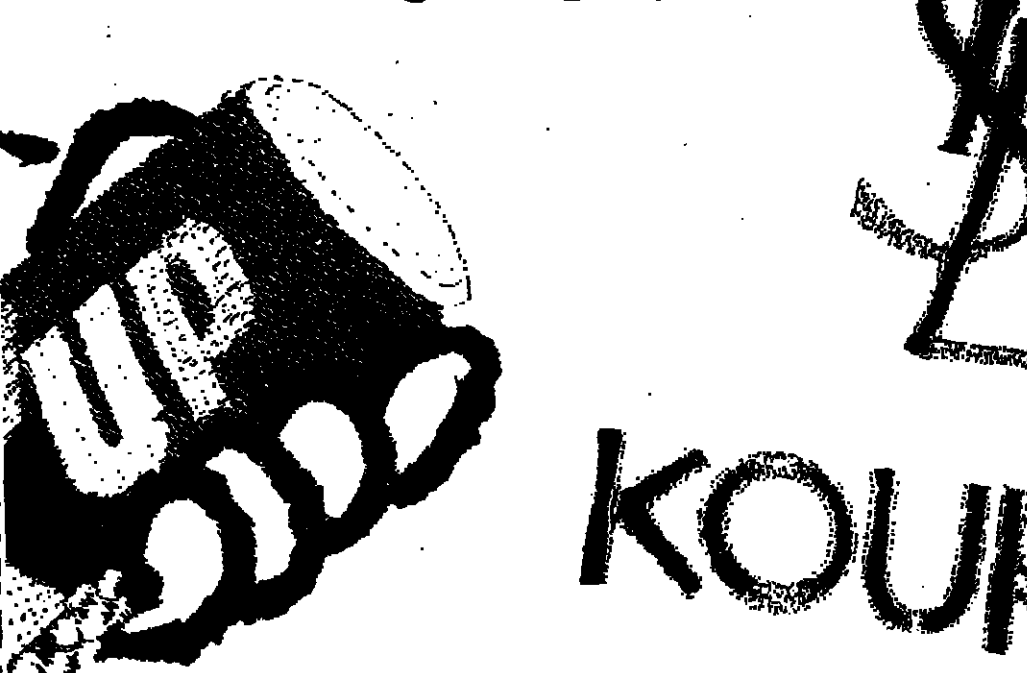
Walter Mazzitti, the head of Archeoclub of Italy, an archaeology-lovers' organisation, decried what he called a lack of adequate security at major ruins in the Naples area and suggested guards should be armed.

Herculaneum, along the Bay of Naples and with the volcano at its back, included the villas of wealthy ancient Romans. Its ruins, discovered in 1709, are considered better preserved than those at the more extensive complex at Pompeii, which was also destroyed by Mount Vesuvius' eruption.

"This theft is archaeologically important, but I do not think the stolen objects will be easy to sell," Baldassare Conticello, superintendent of the Herculaneum and Pompeii excavations, told reporters. "They are all photographed and appear in catalogues."

Walter Mazzitti, president of the Italian archaeoclub complained in a written statement that the artefacts were inadequately protected.

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UK to redevelop Royal Opera House

LONDON, Feb 4, (AP): The Royal Opera House in Covent Garden was given the go-ahead in principle on Tuesday night for a modernisation and redevelopment against the opposition of neighbourhood residents and English Heritage, which looks after historic buildings.

David Weeks, planning chairman of Westminster City Council, said: "We have given approval in principle to enable the Royal Opera House to begin fund-raising for its modernisation and redevelopment."

Local residents, shopkeepers and state-run Eng-

ish Heritage have protested the plans, saying they will damage the surroundings of the opera house and destroy pleasant old buildings for little commercial or artistic benefit.

Weeks said detailed approval would be postponed until the opera house made "significant changes" to its plans.

He said these included review of plans for a 170-foot (51-metre) fly tower which appeared to be too tall, more residential space and preservation of any parts of the adjoining floral hall, a former flower market, which might have to be demolished.

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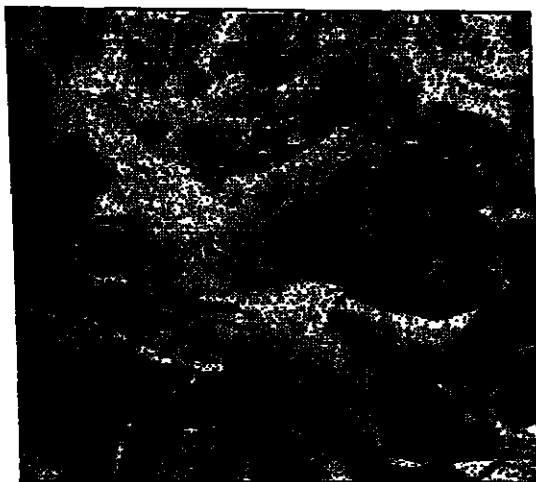


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Businessmen for opposition

Ortega may win



Violeta Chamorro, the opposition presidential candidate, holds up one finger the sign of her party. (Reuters wirephoto)

MANAGUA, Feb 4, (AP): Nicaraguan business executives are praying for an opposition victory in the Feb 25 national elections, but just in case, they're also bracing for another six more years of Sandinista rule.

Foreign observers also are not ruling out a Sandinista victory, but they caution the voters could spring a surprise at the polls.

Some say that even if the Sandinistas win, they will have to change — especially their economic policies.

If they win, the mere "force of facts" will compel the Sandinistas to reverse their policies of controlling the economy and state ownership of a major enterprise, one Western European diplomat observed recently.

"I see in some (Sandinista) commanders a very strong realization that the private sector has to be strengthened ... and that the relaunching of the economy here is impossible without its natural market, which is the United States," said the diplomat, who like others, spoke on condition of anonymity.

Summit to focus drug war strategy

BOGOTA, Feb 4, (UPI): Protecting the chiefs of state may turn out to be the easiest task when US President George Bush goes to Cartagena in two weeks to discuss drug strategy with his counterparts from Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

The toughest will be finding common ground on how to battle the growing drug trade and the violence it has spawned.

The South Americans feel the United States puts too much emphasis on a military solution in their countries and not enough to eradicating the huge US demand for drugs.

And, the South Americans view their own problems as economic not military.

The presidents will meet on an island in the middle of Cartagena Bay. Colombia already is planning massive security for the official visitors and the huge press corps that will accompany them.

But providing security apparently is presenting fewer headaches than agreeing on pre-summit common ground among the four nations. Still, both US and Colombian officials in recent days have said they felt their representatives are in agreement on the agenda.

One official who asked not to be identified said negotiators sought "agreement on a basic approach to narcotics. I think we're near it." Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono also said the team was close to settling an agenda.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco Cox, who is also prime minister, also said the three Andean countries were near agreement but some basic differences among themselves remained on how to approach the problem.

Peru and Bolivia want more direct US economic aid and Colombia is looking for greater trade opportunities in the US for flowers, textiles and coffee. The United States, the world's largest marijuana producer and cocaine consumer, on the other hand, talks about police and military campaigns against the drug lords and eradication of the coca leaf plantations that provide the base for cocaine and its powerful derivative, crack.

"Helicopters, surveillance equipment from binoculars to vehicles," was how one US drug expert put Colombia's needs, adding that the cartels' military equipment is "definitely more advanced than that of Colombian law enforcement."

Assistance

"What Colombia needs is economic assistance — I mean trade," countered another official.

While the United States was providing Colombia with about \$65 million in assistance, including military equipment, for the drug war, Colombia's coffee earnings dropped by more than \$200 million despite growing exports. This year Colombia will pay up to \$12 million in duties on flowers it exports to the United States, thanks to US anti-dumping penalties that Colombia says are unfair.

The drop in coffee prices came last July when the world coffee agreement fell apart in a deadlock between the United States, the world's largest consumer, and Brazil, the largest producer, over quotas that had kept world prices high. Prices plunged up to 50 per cent before the end of the year.

The Colombian cocaine trade brings in, according to some estimates, as much as \$3 billion a year. The US Drug Enforcement Administration estimates that Colombia produced 36 metric tonnes of cocaine in 1988.

No clue yet to mail bombing

FBI probes

ENTERPRISE, Alabama, Feb 4, (AP): FBI agents have grilled a Bible-quoting junk dealer, fingered an alleged gun runner and dug up a septic tank looking for a typewriter. But it appears no arrests are imminent in a series of mail bombings that killed a judge and a lawyer in December.

Doug Marshall, a Federal Bureau of Investigation spokesman in Mobile, said Friday the investigation would continue indefinitely. Scores of federal agents set up offices in a vacant bank building two weeks ago and have made some splashy raids that provided grist for rumour mills.

FBI officials are quick to note that the investigation is continuing full-scale in other cities, notably Atlanta. But Enterprise has received the greatest attention.

The most well-known figure in the investigation, salvage store owner Robert Wayne D'Ferrell, has been closely scrutinised but not charged.

Brian Fleming, a print shop operator whose business and home were searched on Friday, has not been charged in the case either.

Fleming and his wife have been fingerprinted but not questioned in the case, said their attorney, John Knowles. Know-

les said authorities are making a futile attempt to link the bomb cases to Fleming's indictment on a charge of conspiring to export firearms, reportedly to Northern Ireland.

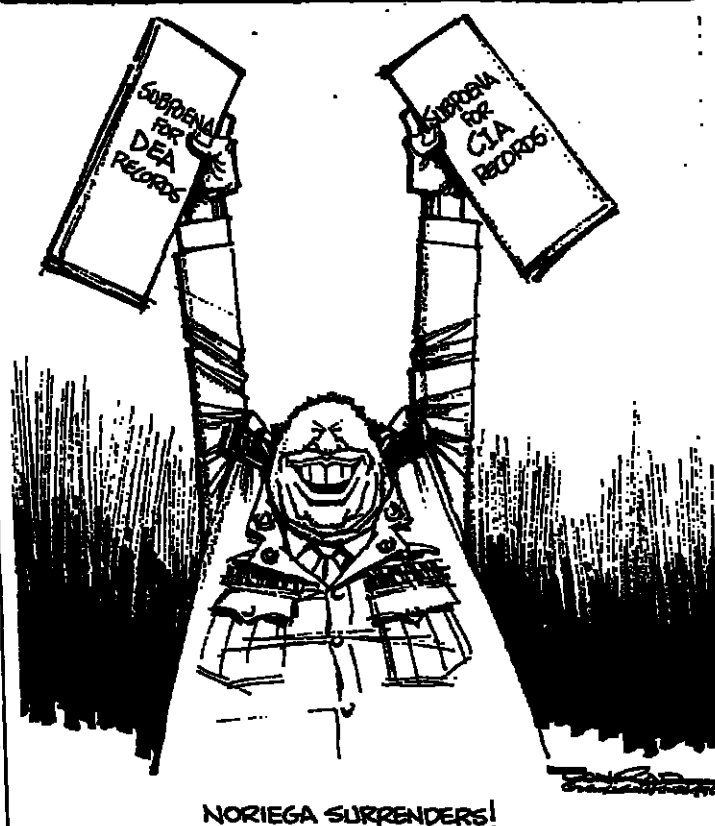
Fleming pleaded innocent and is free on \$5,000 bail.

O'Ferrell said that he has made copies of court documents at Fleming's print shop but that he doesn't know Fleming well.

Killed in the December bomb attacks were Judge Robert Vance of the 11th US circuit court of appeals and civil rights attorney Robert Robinson of Savannah, Georgia. Bombs were also mailed to the 11th circuit headquarters in Atlanta and the Jacksonville, Florida offices of the NAACP civil rights group, but those parcels did not explode.

A much-coveted clue is the typewriter used to write a letter, signed "Americans for a competent federal judicial system," claiming responsibility for the bombs and threatening more violence.

Federal sources have said the letter, received in December by an Atlanta TV station, appeared to have been written on the same typewriter as a document O'Ferrell prepared in 1988 in a case before the 11th circuit.

Treasure discovered
\$2.5m seized

BOGOTA, Feb 4, (UPI): Authorities seized \$2.5 million in drug money and more than 200 guns in an underground shelter on a ranch owned by slain drug king Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, the army said yesterday.

General Ramon Eduardo Nicheles of the 13th army brigade in Bogota told reporters his soldiers discovered the cash and weapons stashed on the ranch "Freddy 1," in Guaduas, Cundinamarca state, 42 miles (67 km) southwest of Bogota.

Rodriguez Gacha, his son Freddy Rodriguez Celades, and five others were gunned down when they tried to shoot their way out of a police ambush in northern Colombia Dec 15.

Rodriguez Gacha was believed to be military chief and second-in-command of the Medellin cartel, suspected run by former Colombian Congressman Pablo Escobar. The cartel is believed responsible for supplying 80 per cent of the cocaine consumed in the United States.

Delaware to reintroduce public flogging for convicted drug offenders

DOVER, Delaware, Feb 4, (UPI): The war on drugs has reached new heights in Delaware — or a new low, depending on who you talk to.

The chairman of Delaware's judiciary committee introduced legislation to reinstate a public whipping post as punishment for convicted drug offenders.

Though the measure was first greeted with amusement, the laughter died down after the sponsor, Sen. Thomas Sharp, passed the bill out of committee for a

possible floor vote.

"If things get slow, we'll kick that in," said Sharp, a Democrat who maintains the measure would be a useful deterrent to drug crimes.

"It ought to make for some interesting debate."

In 1955, Delaware became the last state in the nation to abolish whipping as a form of punishment.

Critics say the thought of Delaware

ATLANTA, Feb 4, (UPI): Former US president Jimmy Carter says he will allow an international bank named in a drug money-laundering case to continue donating funds to a programme he oversees that aids Third World countries.

The Bank of Credit and Commerce International, founded in Luxembourg and managed from London, is a major contributor to Carter's Global 2000, a health and agricultural programme based at the Carter Presidential Centre.

Federal prosecutors dropped money-

laundering charges Jan 16 against BCCI's holding company in return for guilty pleas by two of its subsidiaries, but an investigation of six bank employees is continuing.

Carter, in a telephone interview Friday with the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, from Crested Butte, Colorado, blamed the bank's problems on a "few unsavoury characters ... who were apparently tempted by bribes." He referred to the bank's legal problems as "an unfortunate incident" that has been resolved.

Carter would not say how much money

Global 2000 programme receives from BCCI, the fifth largest private bank in the world, but said without its donations "we would have to cancel all of our projects in Africa and Asia."

"Hundreds of thousands of people benefit from these programmes," he said.

Carter said the bank's donations go directly to countries where Global 2000 has food and health programmes, including China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Zambia, Ghana and Nigeria.

"Every penny that we take is accounted

for and is carefully audited," Carter said.

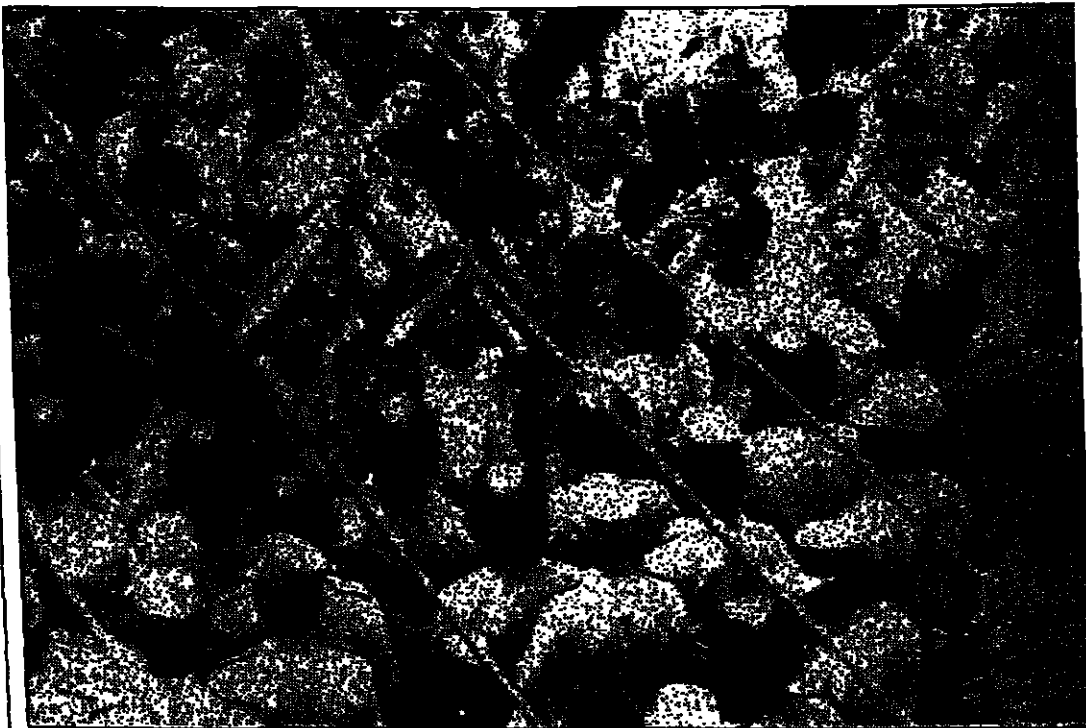
"None of it comes to Atlanta."

The charges stem from a 1988 federal indictment in Tampa, Florida, against BCCI, two subsidiaries and nine current or former employees.

The company is co-operating with the investigation and has agreed to forfeit \$14.8 million in an escrow account.

In return for the plea, the government agreed to waive any future charges against the bank that might arise from the continuing probe.

Carter defends BCCI role



Police block demonstrators

Paraguayan riot police block the path of anti-Stroessner demonstrators who wanted to march through downtown Asuncion on Feb 3 to celebrate

the first anniversary of the overthrow of dictator Alfredo Stroessner. There were no arrests or injuries. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pilot kin to sue US govt for \$2b

NEW YORK, Feb 4, (Reuters): The family of a Colombian pilot killed last week in the crash of an Avianca airliner plans to sue the US government for \$2 billion, the family's lawyer said yesterday.

Lawyer Aaron Broder who won a \$7 million judgment against American Airlines for a 1979 crash in Chicago, said the suit would show the failure of US air traffic controllers to prevent the crash of the Boeing 707, which killed 73 people on Jan 25.

Broder said he would seek \$1 billion for wrongful death and another billion for negligence in the suit against the Federal Aviation Administration.

The FAA is the government agency responsible for the air traffic controllers who tried to bring the plane into New York's Kennedy airport during a rainstorm.

The suit cannot be formally filed for six months to give the FAA time to settle, but the latest to file was delivered to the agency's Washington headquarters on Friday, Broder said.

The action was taken on behalf of pilot Laureano Caviedes's wife, Maria, 33, and her two children, 14 and 12.

The plane was extremely low on fuel when it crashed and federal investigators said Caviedes told controllers he was having fuel problems at least 50 minutes before the crash.

Broder said the suit would maintain the controllers were at fault for failing to bring the plane in to land quicker.

The pilot "had twice asked for priority landing and had notified the controllers he could not reach Logan airport in Boston because he was low on fuel," the lawyer said. Logan was the alternate airport for the flight.

Broder said that controllers were poorly trained and failed to communicate Flight 52's problems properly.

"The vital thing here is that there has been a failure on the part of FAA to get its air traffic control act together," since former president Ronald Reagan fired the controllers in 1981, he said.

Reagan fired 11,400 controllers after they went on strike then defied a government back-to-work order. Union officials have complained the aides have been unsafe since then but the FAA has defended the system.

enacting the whipping post bill would do little to enhance the image of a state often considered by outsiders as little more than an extension of Pennsylvania and a tax haven for corporations.

"It could make Delaware the laughing-stock of the nation, possibly the world," said Judy Mellen, executive director of the Delaware American Civil Liberties Union. "If it survives (the Senate and House), I would hope that cooler heads prevail."

Bush tackles global climate

Final touch to speech

WASHINGTON, Feb 4, (AP): US President George Bush yesterday discussed global climate change with a newly formed presidential advisory panel as he prepares to address the issue in a speech that will be closely watched by environmentalists and business groups.

White House aides denied reports that the presidential chief of staff toned down a speech Bush will make Monday on global warming.

Bush never intended to reveal any policy shifts in his speech to the opening session of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, (IPCC) and the speech was tailored to reflect the official administration position that considerable scientific uncertainty remains about the seriousness of global warming, one administration official said.

Bush has been criticised by environmentalists for not taking a stronger world leadership role on global warming.



Campaign

A Greenpeace helicopter lowers supplies to Greenpeace members in Antarctica on Feb 3. A team of four will spend the coming year at this first non-governmental scientific base located near the historic site of Scott's Hut, Cape Evans, Ross Island. The World Park Base, built in 1987, forms part of Greenpeace's ongoing campaign to safeguard the continent by the creation of a World Park. (Reuters wirephoto)

In his speech to the IPCC, a United Nations-sponsored committee, Bush will showcase his administration's proposals and steps already taken for research and protection involving global environment, said the administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Officials yesterday denied reports in the Washington Post and New York Times that White House Chief of Staff John Sununu tried to tone down the speech because it went too far in portraying global warming as a serious problem.

Sununu and Environmental Protection Agency administrator William Reilly have been at odds over the administration's policy on global warming.

Sununu's deputy, Andrew Card, termed the newspaper reports "fictitious." He said Sununu had "not written any part of the speech," but reviewed it as he routinely would any speech.

Card said finishing touches were put on the speech on Saturday.

The official who spoke anonymously said Sununu's "only point was to be careful about the tone," and make sure it reflected administration policy on the inconclusiveness of scientific research on global warming.

Sununu, according to the reports, is not convinced of the reliability of computer models that project temperature increases of at least 4 degrees by the year 2050 and he fears the economic consequences of shifting abruptly from today's energy sources as a solution to global warming.

"We take the issue seriously, but we're not prepared to make decisions on potential changes that are not scientifically proven," White House spokesman Steve Hart said.

Other officials said that despite a reluctance to endorse expensive and sweeping steps to mitigate global warming, Bush, in his speech, will point out the environmental steps he is taking, such as:

- His proposal to spend \$1 billion in fiscal year 1991, an increase of 57 per cent, for global change research.
- Sweeping clean air act changes currently being negotiated with Congress.
- A proposal to spend \$175 million to begin a project of planting 1 billion trees.
- Last year's regulatory restrictions on electric appliances.

Greensboro 4 served at last

Black rights sit-in marked

GREENSBORO, North Carolina, Feb 4, (UPI): Four black men who sparked the US civil rights movement in 1960 by demanding service at a Woolworth's lunch counter finally got their meal this week — a breakfast of bacon, eggs, grits, toast and coffee on the 30th anniversary of the sit-in.

The Greensboro four — Jibreel Khazan, Joe McNeil, Franklin McCain and David Richmond — were invited to dine at Woolworth's on the anniversary of the protest that broke the back of southern segregation. They were greeted at the door by Woolworth's Vice President Aubrey Lewis, who is black.

"I want to thank you for what you did 30 years ago," Lewis told the four men. "You had the courage to open the door for an entire movement."

"Thirty years ago, you could not be served here. I could not be served here," Lewis said. "But because of what you did, I now stand here as vice president of Woolworth's."

Three of the men ordered coffee, and a fourth asked for water and a banana. But Woolworth's would have none of that and out came an elaborate spread of bacon, scrambled eggs, grits and toast, in contrast to the treatment 30 years ago when they ordered a meal and got a cold shoulder instead.

Scared stiff

"I remember it," said Geneva Tisdale, a black who was working at the lunch counter's steam table, when the demonstration occurred. "I was scared stiff because I didn't know what was going to happen."

Tisdale and Ima Edwards, who also worked at the lunch counter, were on hand to help serve breakfast to the four men whose action sparked restaurant sit-ins across the South and ultimately ended the policy of whites-only seating places.

"We were determined to turn America around," said Khazan, now 48. "It was a war that was going on. We were non-violent warriors in a war. We were struggling to be free."

"That was really our aim — to test the bill of rights and the constitution, to see if they really worked," he said. "We didn't have any civil rights. Most people talked about doing something. We decided to do something."

At 4 pm on Monday, Feb 1, 1960, the four students from North Carolina A-and-T state college, which is still predominantly black — walked into Woolworth's and sat down at the counter.

Although the dime store sold food to blacks, they were not allowed to sit at the counter where whites were routinely served.

Look bad

"Fellows like you make our race look bad," said a black waitress who refused to serve them.

The students remained until the store closed, then returned the next morning along with 19 others. By Wednesday, the group of protesters had grown to 85 and by Thursday there were 400 students demanding to be served at Woolworth's.

Word spread, and soon blacks were walking into all-white restaurants in other North Carolina cities — Durham, High Point, Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Raleigh.

Similar demonstrations sprang up in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, West Virginia, Texas and Arkansas. Mass arrests were made in Raleigh, Nashville and Montgomery. Woolworth's closed the Greensboro lunch counter.

"I was puzzled when they walked in because I didn't know what to do," said Edwards, who is white and worked in the bakery area. "Many of us felt they should have been served, but we couldn't do it."

Costa Ricans go to vote

SAN JOSE, Feb 4, (Reuters): Costa Rica, the oldest democracy in Central America, votes today in presidential elections in which the two leading candidates have been hard-pressed to show they can measure up to outgoing President Oscar Arias, a Nobel peace prize winner.

Arias, who won international acclaim in 1987 for his leadership of a far-reaching Central American peace plan, is forbidden by law from seeking a second term or taking an active role in the elections.

Campaign officials expect a close race between the two men most likely

to succeed Arias, but predicting the winner has been complicated by an agreement between independent pollsters not to release survey results during the month before the elections.

Both Carlos Manuel Castillo, of the ruling National Liberation Party, and Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, of the opposition Social Christian Unity Party, say they would deviate little from the successful policies of the outgoing president.

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JAPANESE



Black demonstrators carry Communist Party and ANC banners as they march through Johannesburg's Alexandra township on Feb 3. (Reuters wirephoto)

New future awaits SA

CAPE TOWN, Feb 4, (AP): With a single speech, President F.W. de Klerk has set South Africa on the road to a new future after decades of racial confrontation and white domination.

De Klerk repudiated the white supremacist principles that guided his ruling National Party for decades — including communists and guerrilla leaders — to take part in political life.

"The aim is a totally new and just constitutional dispensation in which every inhabitant will enjoy equal rights, treatment and opportunity in every sphere," he told the nation at the opening of parliament on Friday.

However, major pillars of apartheid, such as laws segregating residential areas and public amenities, remain in force and power and wealth are overwhelmingly concentrated in the hands of whites.

In a speech that would have been unthinkable a year or two ago, the President ended bans on the African National Congress and other anti-apartheid groups that have waged a 30-year guerrilla struggle against white minority rule, repealed many repressive regulations and promised to end the state of emergency used to stifle dissent.

The speech was a remarkable change for the party, which created apartheid to exclude blacks permanently from power.

HF Verwoerd, a former prime minister and the architect of apartheid, set the tone for nationalist rule when he said in 1961, "when I talk of the nation of South Africa, I talk to the white people of South Africa."

De Klerk warned that the quest for a peaceful solution would not be easy and the country would face many challenges as it sought to overcome its differences.

He appealed to all South Africans to work with him while there was still time.

Government leaders and their opponents agree that nobody knows just how to solve the country's problems.

In a front-page editorial yesterday hailing de Klerk's reforms, the Cape Times newspaper said: "Our problems may yet be resolved in a peaceful manner... we have now entered a more dangerous phase of the inevitable process of change, where the situation is going to be much more volatile... there is no easy road."

De Klerk deliberately avoided many of the major questions facing South Africa, including the extent to which the government is willing to share power with blacks and the pace at which it will make reforms.

In the past, de Klerk has said he opposes black majority rule — the main goal of all anti-apartheid groups, which say they will not accept anything but full democracy with no special status for any ethnic group.

Government ministers declined to say when apartheid laws would be abolished, saying such changes would have to be negotiated. But de Klerk promised that the Separate

Sidelights



A black protester screams out as he attends the rally in Johannesburg. (Reuters wirephoto)

Learn from Lincoln, Kennedy: Jesse Jackson appealed Saturday to President F.W. de Klerk to follow the example of Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy and press ahead with his reforms, regardless of any threatened backlash from white conservatives.

The US black civil rights leader expressed "hope and caution" about South Africa as he prepared to revisit it after being refused entry for a decade.

He flies to Zambia on Monday, and to South Africa on Wednesday, and he said he was hoping to meet de Klerk as well as jailed black leader Nelson Mandela, in or out of prison.

De Klerk has promised Mandela's imminent release, and has legalised the African National Congress, the main guerrilla group fighting white rule, and lifted restrictions on 60 opposition groups and 374 individuals. (AP)

Mandela suffered depression: South Africa's jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela says in a biography to be published this week he came close to breaking point during his 27 years behind bars and wondered whether his sacrifice was worthwhile.

Mandela, 71, whose imminent release was announced by South African President F.W. de Klerk on Friday, says he suffered deep depression and had nightmares, according to extracts published in the Sunday Times newspaper.

"The worse part of imprisonment is being locked up by yourself," Mandela says in the authorised biography "Higher Than Hope."

Tutu: fight not over: Jubilation over the pending release of South Africa's imprisoned black leader Nelson Mandela must be tempered with the realisation that apartheid is far from ended, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said Saturday.

The South African Nobel laureate, visiting Boston, urged continued political and economic pressure on the South African government. (AP)

Amenities Act, which allows local governments to segregate public facilities, would be repealed during the current session of Parliament.

While most anti-apartheid leaders hailed de Klerk's initiative, they warned that the government had not gone far enough.

Exiled ANC leaders, apparently caught off guard by de Klerk's initiative, welcomed the reforms, but said there could be no instant peace. "An armistice can only take place once a democratic government is in place," said an ANC spokesman.

Denis Worrall, leader of the white Liberal Democratic Party, said the search for a political solution could resemble the tortured quest for peace in Northern Ireland and the Middle East.

The government is not in danger of collapsing and de Klerk is in a powerful position as he offers to negotiate. The government is in full control of the country, black resistance is minimal and the ANC has admitted its guerrilla campaign has been largely ineffectual.

ANC, PAC split widens

HARARE, Feb 4, (Reuters): The split between rival South African black nationalist movements in exile appears to be widening as they prepare to respond to President F.W. de Klerk's call to join him at the negotiating table.

Despite urgent pleas for unity from senior black African leaders such as President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) are still slinging mud at each other.

The ANC, the senior of the two movements battling to end South Africa's apartheid laws, is based in Lusaka and the PAC, a splinter group formed in the late 1950s, has its headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

Both were legalised by de Klerk on Friday after 30 years underground and in exile. In the most far-reaching address by a South African president since the white National Party came to power in 1948, de Klerk announced that ANC leader Nelson Mandela would be released from jail soon and declared that "the time for negotiation has arrived."

The latest round of invective between the ANC and PAC was sparked by an attack on the headline PAC late last month by Thabo Mbeki, the ANC's chief foreign affairs spokesman.

He told a university audience in Dar es Salaam that the PAC was "a diversion from the main course of the struggle" and had allowed itself to be manipulated by hostile forces.

"Pretoria bombs us, it raids us in neighbouring countries, it hangs our members. The PAC has never been attacked, where are its members?" Mbeki asked.

The PAC hit back through its executive secretary Joe Mkwana, who accused Mbeki in a letter released in Harare on Friday of making his attack "at the most inopportune time."

He said the PAC had led the way in the armed struggle against apartheid and rejected Mbeki's charge that it was controlled by hostile forces. He also accused the ANC of being repeatedly infiltrated by South African security agents.

Name-calling between the two movements reflects long-standing ideological differences dating back to the mid-1950s, when the ANC adopted its landmark freedom charter of guiding principles.

exposure to harsh weather conditions, the report said.

It described education in the field of human rights as an urgent priority and called for stiff penalties for those found guilty of acts of torture.

Torture is widespread despite being banned by a UN convention, it added.

"Though the fight against torture has considerably intensified during the last decade, it remains a common phenomenon in today's world," the report said.

The number of countries where torture was systematically applied had fallen over the same period but it was still far from exceptional elsewhere.

"The sad conclusion must be drawn that respect for the inherent rights of all human beings, irrespective of their race, creed and, most of all, their political conviction is still painfully underdeveloped," the report said.

It made special mention of the torture of children.

ANC leaders chalk out future strategies

Ceasing of black hostility will be negotiated

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 4, (AP): The government's announcement of sweeping political change prompted subdued reaction and reflection among anti-apartheid activists this weekend.

The African National Congress, meeting for the first time since President F.W. de Klerk legalised the organisation, considered new strategies but said it will not abandon its guerrilla campaign.

ANC leaders flew to Stockholm, Sweden, yesterday from their headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, to join veteran members recently released from South African prisons who were in Sweden to visit ailing ANC President Oliver Tambo.

largest black city, Soweto, home to 2.5 million people.

Two hundreds blacks, mostly children, gathered two hours later for a rally in a church in the largest black township outside Cape Town, where hundreds of thousands live.

In the Natal province capital of Pietermaritzburg, 7,000 people gathered outside a cricket stadium to protest a visiting English team that is defying an international sports boycott against apartheid.

But about 8,000 people, including many elders and children, crammed into a stadium in Alexandra, a township of more than 100,000 people near Johannesburg, and chanted "Viva ANC" while swaying to the rhythm of liberation songs.

In Lusaka, ANC spokesman Pallo Jordan said the ANC will not abandon the military campaign, but conceded it will take a lower profile.

"Any ceasing of hostilities will have to be negotiated and will arise out of a mutually binding ceasefire," he told reporters.

ANC secretary-general Alfred Nzo and Jo Slovo, head of the South African Communist Party, flew to Stockholm late Friday to join Walter Sisulu and other ANC veterans touring Scandinavia on their first visit outside Africa since being freed in October.

The meeting, expected to last until tomorrow, was an ANC executive committee session to "discuss new strategies because of the new situation which has arisen," said David Kgabang, an official of the ANC's Stockholm office.

Kgabang gave no indication of how the strategy might change.

Kgabang said he expected the ANC to reopen its offices in Johannesburg and elsewhere in South Africa. The group operated openly for 48 years until it was outlawed in 1960, and began its sabotage campaign in 1961.

In a statement Friday, the ANC tempered its welcome of de Klerk's speech with concern that some emergency restrictions remained in place, including the power to detain without trial. It called for the continued international isolation of South Africa until apartheid is dismantled.

In Washington, President George Bush said US sanctions against South Africa should be reviewed in light of de Klerk's announcement, but he wants to see more specifics before scaling back the sanctions.

Bush said he would look particularly for Mandela's release.

Under US law, the president can suspend or modify the sanctions if Mandela and other political prisoners are freed and other specific conditions are met.

Jesse Jackson, a prominent US civil rights activist who made a strong bid for the presidency, was to travel to South Africa this week and he said he was hoping to meet de Klerk as well as Mandela, in or out of prison.

South Africa repealed laws that banned 175 people, including ANC president Tambo, Sweden; ANC's chief spokesman, Tom Sebeane, and Slovo, the leader of the South African Communist Party.

About 200 other people who were restricted under the national emergency legislation, their freedom yesterday to work, travel, speak and assemble without prohibitions. Zwelakhe Sisulu, who had been prevented for two years from editing his newspaper, New Nation, was free to work and speak. His paper carried front-page colour illustrations of the ANC and Communist Party flags in a special issue yesterday.

Jubilant South African anti-apartheid groups celebrated a new sense of freedom at the weekend and looked forward to the quick release of Mandela.

On Friday, de Klerk had partly rescinded the state of emergency imposed in 1986 to quell disturbances. He announced the legalisation of the ANC and about 60 other opposition groups, and lifted the ban on hundreds of anti-apartheid activists, including Tambo.

De Klerk also promised to unconditionally free ANC leader Nelson Mandela, but gave no date. The 71-year-old Mandela, imprisoned since 1962, is serving a life sentence for helping plan the start of the ANC's sabotage and bombing campaign against the white-led government.

Reaction in black townships was subdued, with no celebration in the

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Faulty circuit triggers alert: Faulty circuit breakers triggered a low-level alert for more than six hours at a nuclear plant in central Pennsylvania, but no radiation was released. Lt. Gov. Mark Singel said in Berwick, Pennsylvania.

Fire and ambulance crews were called Saturday to Susquehanna steam heating station, but no injuries were reported and no employees were evacuated from the plant.

"It is not all that serious," said Karl Abraham, a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. "There is no threat to the public at all or to the workers in the plant." (AP)

US-Soviet space personnel: US and Soviet space officials are discussing a swap that would allow an American astronaut to fly aboard the Soviet Mir space station and a Soviet cosmonaut to travel aboard a US space shuttle, the Washington Post reported on Sunday in Washington.

The proposal envisions an exchange of doctors conducting experiments on weightlessness, the newspaper said.

An associate deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Samuel Keller, told the newspaper the cosmonaut could fly aboard a space shuttle as early as mid-1992 on a flight carrying the European-built laboratory spacelab. (Reuters)

Killer for death row: A man accused of killing a US woman travelling in Ghana last year has been convicted and sentenced to death by firing squad, the US State Department has confirmed.

Alane Gomez of La Porte, Texas, said Thursday she was informed by the US consul in Accra that a court there convicted David W. Agudu in the slaying of her daughter, Alena Marie Gomez.

The 24-year-old woman was robbed and killed while on an extended trip through Africa. She was missing for seven months before police arrested Agudu last September. (UPI)

Iran-Contra affair: US prosecutors in the Iran-Contra affair are pursuing allegations that former US Central Intelligence Agency operative Thomas G. Clines failed to report income on his tax returns from arms transactions involving the Contras, according to sources familiar with the probe in Washington.

The Iran-Contra affair was the biggest foreign policy scandal of the administration of former President Ronald Reagan. (AP)

Indians march to protest: About 70 Indians in Atlanta representing various tribes marched to the state Capitol Saturday to protest against a proposed construction on ancient burial grounds.

The Indians, led by Dennis Banks, leader of the American Indian Movement and veteran of the siege at Wounded Knee in 1973, said they were upset that a developer has been given permission to build on an Indian burial site in Decatur, Ga. (UPI)

Angola claims Mavinga recaptured

LISBON, Feb 4, (AP): The Angolan Army claimed yesterday its forces recaptured the strategic Mavinga airstrip in southeast Angola, the focus of bitter fighting with Unita rebels for over a month, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

In a dispatch from the Angolan capital, Luanda, Lusa quoted an army statement as saying government forces "dislodged the bands of Unita from Mavinga" on Friday.

The statement, the first official admission of any military actions near Mavinga, said government troops were "counting punitive actions" to the

south of the town, Lusa reported.

Mavinga's airstrip is considered vital for control of the southeast region and the key for any government attack on rebel headquarters at Jamba, over 200 kilometres (120 miles) further south.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, in a statement released in Lisbon yesterday, denied Mavinga had fallen.

Norberto de Castro, Unita spokesman in Lisbon said Savimbi, who suddenly cut short a five-nation European tour on Tuesday, was directing operations in Mavinga under heavy air bombardment.

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Kaifu grabs microphones as he address crowds in a Tokyo street. (Reuters wirephoto)



Takako Doi addressing a crowd in Ginza street. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kaifu fails to convince people: Doi pulls crowd

Farmers dealt fatal blow to Japan's ruling party

TOKYO, Feb 4, (AP): Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is telling voters that in two weeks Japan will face a crucial choice between democracy and socialism.

But as official campaigning for parliamentary elections began yesterday, voters didn't seem to share his concern. "I need your support," he told an unenthusiastic crowd of several hundred people who gathered in front of a busy Tokyo train station.

Most of his audience appeared to be party supporters invited to the rally. Passers-by lingered only until traffic lights changed. Nearby, more than 1,000 people gathered to hear the leader of the main

opposition Socialist Party.

The embattled prime minister, one of 953 candidates vying for the 512 seats in Parliament's powerful Lower House, has said he will resign if his Liberal Democratic Party cannot retain a majority.

And for the first time in 34 years of unbroken rule, the Liberal Democrats are facing the possibility that even that goal may prove to be too much.

Kaifu said the Feb 18 election will be "critical," and warned that voters will be deciding whether they want "freedom and democracy or socialism and communism."

"The world has already rendered its verdict on socialism," he said, referring to the ouster of hard-line communist rulers in Eastern Europe.

At the Socialist rally, party leader Takako Doi said her party planned to defeat the Liberal Democrats.

"Before the last election I said the mountain would move," said the 61-year-old Ms Doi, alluding to the Liberal Democrats' loss of their majority in the Upper House of Parliament in July.

"We will move the second mountain," Ms Doi said the governing party lost in July because of its support for a three per cent sales tax and because of its leaders' involvement in financial and sex scandals.

"It's been seven months, and they haven't changed a bit," she said. "The only road left is for each of you to change politics with your votes."

Ms Doi, the only woman leader of a major party, is widely credited with increasing the socialists' popularity.

Seisuke Isebe, 60, said she also was drawn to the rally by Ms Doi. "Women in Japan have been looked down on in the past, but Ms Doi shows that some of us can be very powerful."

Two of four candidates with Ms Doi at the rally were women. No women are running for the Liberal Democrats.

Going into the elections, the Socialists held 83 seats in the Lower House against 295 for the Liberal Democrats.

The Clean Government Party held 54 seats, the communists 25. Twenty-five seats were either vacant or held by independents and minor party members.

The Socialists are only backing 148 candidates, and would need to form a coalition with other opposition parties to wrest the majority away from the Liberal Democrats, who are backing 325 candidates.

Kaifu assumed office in August after Sousuke Ueno resigned to take responsibility for the election defeat in July and amid reports that he had an extramarital affair with a geisha.

Ueno's predecessor, Noboru Takeshita, stepped down in June because of his ties to an influence-peddling scandal.

Several other Liberal Democratic leaders resigned in the scandal, in which the information conglomerate Recruit Co. was accused of paying millions of dollars in exchange for political influence.

Japan's six million farmers dealt the ruling Liberal Democratic Party a fatal blow in last year's Upper House election but are reluctantly returning to the fold ahead of Feb 18 voting for the more powerful Lower House.

The party seems to be regaining support even in southern Japan's predominantly agricultural Kumamoto prefecture where anti-LDP sentiment raged during last summer's Upper House campaign and two LDP candidates crashed to defeat.

"The mood is very different from that of last July," said Masahiro Nakao, youth committee chairman of the agricultural co-operative of Kumamoto.

"Even if mistrust of the LDP is still bubbling in everybody's mind, when it comes to the powerful Lower House people are looking to more practical, conventional ties in the neighbourhood — and that's the LDP," he said.

Anti-LDP sentiment was so strong last year that a woman candidate new to elections and without a party affiliation won an Upper House seat at the expense of an LDP veteran officially backed by the local farm co-operatives.

"Liar" yelled farmers at LDP candidates they blamed for failing to block liberalisation of Japan's beef and citrus markets.



Nakasone waves to supporters during an election campaign in his home district of Takasaki City Feb 3. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yasu in hot spot

Tough election battle

TAKASAKI, Japan, Feb 4, (Reuters): "Wherever there are two or three people, Nakasone shows up."

That's the word going around former prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's home district here in Gunma prefecture before a national election on Feb 18.

Haunted by the Recruit shares-for-favours scandal, Nakasone is hustling to avoid going down in history as Japan's first post-war former prime minister to lose a re-election battle, rather than as a leader who brought in sweeping economic reforms.

Nakasone, premier for five years to 1987, reluctantly resigned from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party last May to take responsibility for the massive political scandal, which occurred during his tenure.

He is running as an independent but with local LDP backing in what may be his toughest campaign since 1947, when he first won a seat from this hilly district northwest of Tokyo.

"It looks as if Mr Nakasone is in a bit of a hot spot," said a former LDP political aide. "His son and everyone are campaigning very actively and he is really... very worried."

The official election campaign kicked off yesterday, but politicians here say the 71-year-old Nakasone has been out among the voters since last autumn, sometimes showing up uninvited at local gatherings.

Despite the massive effort, officials at Nakasone's bustling headquarters stopped short of predicting success.

"Usually by now we'd know for sure about the outcome, but this time we don't," said one of his campaign aides. "There are a lot of strong competitors."

Among those competitors are two LDP candidates seen as certain to win two of the district's four seats.

Neither Yasuo Fukuda, son of 84-year-old former prime minister Takeo Fukuda, nor incumbent former chief cabinet secretary Keizo Obuchi appear much affected by voter anger over LDP scandals, its controversial sales tax or its farm policy.

That anger caused the LDP to lose its majority in parliament's upper house last July for the first time since taking power 34 years ago.

"Fukuda and Obuchi are very popular for two reasons," said Masaru Marubashi, a dentist active in a local environmental protection movement. "They haven't been linked with any major scandals, and they've always taken good care of the local people."

Recruit is not Nakasone's first brush with scandal. In a 1976 election, he scraped into fourth place after vague allegations of involvement in the Lockheed bribery scandal.

Kin notified

WW II dead identified

WASHINGTON, Feb 4, (UPI): The remains of 10 US airmen found in a B-24 bomber that crashed in New Guinea during World War II have been identified and relatives are being notified, 47 years after the accident, the army said this week.

Defence Department officials said, however, that they have been unable to find relatives of four of the men and they appealed to the general public to provide any information that might be helpful.

The crash site was discovered in the jungles of New Guinea in May 1984 by the owner of an aviation company and the manager of a helicopter firm who were working in the area, said Shari Lawrence of the US Army personnel command.

Forensic experts from the army's central identification laboratory in Hawaii conducted three search-and-recovery missions, the last in 1987, before identification of the remains could be confirmed, she said.

US report accuses China of abuses

WASHINGTON, Feb 4, (UPI):

Departing from the Bush administration's cautious statements on China, a confidential State Department report accused China of pervasive, severe human rights violations in Beijing, Tibet and other parts of the country, a published report said today.

The report says the "massacre" in Tiananmen Square and the subsequent crackdown on independent political activity violated almost every internationally recognised human rights, the New York Times said today.

The State Department report on China is required by law and scheduled for publication Feb 21.

The report says since June the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party have tightened ideological control of students and scholars, reasserted political control over trade unions and Chinese journalists, crushed a human rights monitoring group and adopted new security regulations to restrict foreign travel and the movement of Chinese citizens within the country.

It says Deng Xiaoping and a "closed circle of a few senior leaders" are determined to retain power, regardless of the people's wishes.

The study was reviewed by the White House but apparently not watered down, the Times said.

The report's conclusions were first reported by the US NBC News Friday.

In Gansu province 731 people with low IQs were sterilised last year under eugenic regulations that prohibit the birth of children to people with severe mental handicaps. China was drafting a law to extend the ban nationwide, the report said.

The report concludes that "the human rights climate in China deteriorated dramatically in 1989," with the killing of scores of people in Tibet, "several hundred and possibly thousands of people" killed in Beijing and a score executed for "clearly political offences" after secret trials devoid of procedural safeguards.

"At the year's end the crackdown was still continuing," the report noted.

The State Department's annual human rights report "describes every human rights crime you can think of" on the part of the Chinese government, a congressional source who has seen the unclassified document said Friday night.

The frankness of the document appeared to surprise some congressional figures who expected President George Bush's administration to mute criticism of China.

The administration has asserted it is important to maintain a dialogue with Chinese leaders to encourage liberalisation.

SEOUL, Feb 4, (AP): President Roh Tae-Woo pledged with former opposition leaders yesterday to accelerate democratic reforms and release imprisoned dissidents, the presidential office announced.

The announcement said Roh agreed on democratic reforms, including an amnesty for those jailed for political protests, proposed by two former opposition leaders Kim Young-Sam and Kim Jong-Pil in talks at Roh's office.

Roh and the two Kims also agreed to seek "steady democratic reforms" after forming a broad-based new Conservative Party by early April, it said.

In a move unprecedented in South Korea's constitutional history, Roh announced last week that his governing party will merge with the nation's second and third opposition groups led by the two Kims.

Roh's Democratic Justice Party was dissolved Thursday, and Kim Young-Sam's Reunification Democratic Party announced its dissolution Monday.

The presidential announcement did not say how many prisoners will be freed, but said the government would consider releasing "as many as possible."

No government figures were available, but dissidents claim there are about 1,000 dissidents, students, workers and others imprisoned for political activity.

Dissidents and radical students have vowed to launch a civil drive against the three-party merger, calling it a scheme by a military dictatorship to prolong its power.

Vietnam rules out opposition

BANGKOK, Feb 4, (UPI): Vietnamese Communist Party leader Nguyen Van Linh, speaking on the 60th anniversary of his party's founding, again rejected any relaxation of communist dominance in Vietnam, saying opposition parties were not necessary for democracy.

"The revolutionary practice in Vietnam during the past 60 years has testified to the following truth: The party leadership in our society is an objective necessity," he said in a speech commemorating the founding of the party on Feb 3, 1930.

Linh, now 74 and rumoured to be ready to resign because of illness, called on the people and party to continue his policies of liberal economic reforms, but only cautious political changes meant to preserve communist power.

Linh said the crises faced by communist parties in eastern Europe were caused not by party domination but by excessive bureaucracy and "deviations which have deformed socialism."

Linh said the Vietnamese people did not believe that allowing multiple parties would solve their problems because they already had experienced with other parties in the early days of the anti-French struggle.

Sihanouk move

New name, flag

BEIJING, Feb 4, (AP): Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk has changed the name, flag and anthem of his resistance coalition in an apparent move to distance himself from the Khmer Rouge, strongest of the coalition's three partners.

Sihanouk, in a letter to his son, Prince Ranariddh, seen today said the resistance group now will be called the "Coalition Government of Cambodia," rather than "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea."

Ranariddh, who is based in Bangkok, was asked to deliver the message to Son Sann, head of a second faction and premier of the coalition government. Son Sann was then to re-visit the changes to UN Security General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The coalition holds Cambodia's seat in the United Nations, which has refused to recognise the Vietnam-installed government of Hun Sen in Phnom Penh.

Sihanouk said his country should be referred to simply as "Cambodia," rather than "Kampuchea," the name used by the Khmer Rouge when it held power from 1975 to 1978. He said he will go by the title of "President of Cambodia."

The national anthem adopted by Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader held responsible for the faction's genocidal policies during the 1970s, will be dropped and replaced by the traditional song "Nokoreach," Sihanouk said.

The traditional flag used by the two nationalist parties — those headed by Sihanouk and Son Sann — will become the coalition government's flag, Sihanouk said.

Sihanouk resigned on Jan 24 as head of the three-party coalition.

He said, however, that he will remain president of the country, or head of state, and will run for President if a political settlement is reached between the rebel coalition and the Vietnam-backed Hun Sen government.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Imitation parts on jet fighters: Authorities investigating malpractices by a Royal Malaysian Air Force general and five other officers have uncovered evidence that imitation parts were used to repair Skyhawk jet-fighters and Nuri (Sicorsky) helicopters for the past three years, it was reported today.

The report said the Defence Forces' Special Investigative Branch (SIB) and the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) found that parts with low heat-resistance were used for the Skyhawks instead of the genuine parts stipulated in repair manuals.

The report quoted ACA sources as saying investigators had also found that the Nuri's gearboxes which were supposed to have been sent for servicing to the United States were sent instead to a Singapore firm. (Kuna)

South Koreans defect to North: Two South Korean nationals have defected to North Korea, saying they no longer wanted to live in the South "where elementary human liberties and rights are trampled under foot," the official North Korean Central News Agency reported Saturday.

The agency, in a dispatch monitored in Tokyo, identified the pair as Kim Won Suk, director of the Kuro and Ryongma tourist agencies, and Yu Sol Ja, a woman clerk at Ryongma.

It quoted Kim as saying he was discontented with "the unjustifiable behaviour of the South Korean authorities who were interested only in power and money."

"Moreover, I learned from those who had been to the North that the anti-communist propaganda of the South Korean authorities was a sheer lie."

"I did not want to live any longer in the South Korean society where elementary human liberties and rights are trampled underfoot and falsehood and deception prevail," the agency quoted Kim as saying. (UPI)

Cyclone brings havoc to Australia: Gale force winds and torrential rain brought by cyclone Nancy left coastal areas of New South Wales state awash yesterday and more flooding was expected as some rivers still had to reach peak levels.

Police confirmed three men dead and an 11-year-old boy was missing, feared dead, after swollen rivers and creeks broke their banks and swirled over roads and bridges in northern NSW and southern Queensland during the weekend.

Spokeswoman Sonya Zadel said police recovered the body of a 30-year-old man whose car was washed from a bridge into the Brunswick river, near Mullumbimby, on the far north coast Friday night. A 39-year-old woman companion escaped through the car window before it sank. The body of another 28-year-old man drowned at nearby Kyogle had also been recovered.

The body of a young man, who fell from his canoe in a fast-running stream near the Nerang river on Queensland's gold coast, also had been found.

She said police were still searching for the body of an 11-year-old boy who fell into the river at Bellingen on Saturday. (UPI)



Softening stand

The new Beijing bureau chief for the Voice of America, Stephanie Mann Nealer, poses in her office. Nealer, replaces Al Persons who was expelled by Chinese authorities after the June 4 massacre. Allowing the return of a VOA correspondent is part of the softening of Chinese attitudes in relations with US. (Reuters wirephoto)



Fighting for life

Nursing officer Patrick Derroose takes a quick look at the X-ray of British photographer Norman Parkinson at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore before heading for the Intensive Care Unit. Parkinson, 76, is fighting for his life after suffering brain haemorrhage while on assignment in the jungle of Borneo. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kenya's three Sunday newspapers reported the barge, which supplied oil to ships at the port, left a 200-metre (240 yards) long oil spill in the harbour on Saturday.

Fred Mupalia, a coxswain aboard Alpha K, said the barge had been tied to a jetty overnight when for an explained reason it started listing in the morning, according to the Sunday Times.

"I jumped for my life and realised later that the watchman was missing," Mupalia said.

Barge sinks in Kenya: A barge loaded with 420 tons of bunker fuel sank at the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa, spilling an undetermined amount of oil, it was reported yesterday.

The barge was carrying oil for the port, which was used by the port authority to supply the port.

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200,000 rally to demand reform

(Continued from Page 1)

The once-banned flags of the Baltic republics mingled with the yellow-and-blue banner of the Ukrainian mass movement, Rukh.

Marchers swarmed into the square down Gorky street from the Moscow ring-road, some chanting in unison "Down with the KGB".

Banners proclaimed "Down with article six" — the clause in the Soviet constitution which guarantees the party's "leading role" in society.

Others called on the Soviet army not to oppose the people and demanded the retirement of Yegor Ligachev, reviled by many reformists as the conservatives' stalking horse on the Politburo.

The demonstration came as the 20 million-strong party, which has ruled since the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, appeared to face a turning point in its history.

"The party is going through its most difficult time, perhaps the most difficult in its entire history," the government daily Izvestia warned today.

The Central Committee is meeting tomorrow and on Tuesday to debate proposals which include giving up its constitutional right to rule, changing its structure and increasing its accountability to the people.

A draft proposal, which is thought to reflect Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's views on the party, calls for a platform of "humane democratic socialism" which would end the party's exclusive grip on power.

Organisers of the rally included the democratic platform, a reform group within the party, the Moscow Association of Voters and other progressive organisations.

Police said there were no reports of disorders during the rally, which police kept hemmed in with buses and lorries parked across city intersections. Thousands of young officers linked arms to keep the crowd in place.

Radical historian Yuri Afanasyev told the rally: "I end with a call — hail the peaceful, non-violent 1990 all-union revolution." He called for progressive forces to hold further protests across the Soviet Union in three weeks' time.

A moment of silence was observed for hundreds of people who have died in ethnic clashes in the south of the country.

The clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis, the separatists threat from the Baltic republics and economic stagnation that refuses to yield to reforms have presented Gorbachev with an unprecedented crisis.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said in an interview that there is no question of President Mikhail Gorbachev resigning.

"The question concerning the resignation... has not risen and is not rising," Shevardnadze said in an interview with the Toronto Star.

Yugoslav communists in disarray

(Continued from Page 1)

Slovenian communists had the status of an unequal minority. Ribicic told the Associated Press.

The break also extended to the republic party's name. Bekes said the League of Communists of Slovenia would henceforth be known as the LCS — the party for democratic renewal, "whose programme and statute will be of the social-democratic orientation" common in Western Europe.

He said the Slovenian communists "will remain open for co-operation with all democratic-orientated forces" in other Yugoslav republics.

Slovenian communists have moved quickly over the past three years to create a pluralistic political system in the republic despite harsh criticism from Serbia, the largest Yugoslav republic, where communist leaders demand continued Communist Party dominance on the national level.

Slovenian communists walked away from an important national party congress in January and disrupted its work after being defeated by Serbian-led hard-liners on several reform issues.

"We do not want to be a part of an old-style dogmatic organization such as Yugoslavia's League of Communists," Bekes told reporters.

He said Slovenia will have no representatives in the national communist leadership, but is willing to form a coalition with the federal leadership on the national level.

The deep divisions within the national party grew increasingly evident during the January congress as delegates became bogged down in bitter debate between Slovenian liberals, anxious to push ahead with reforms, and entrenched hardliners from Serbia.

Changes in East bloc jolt US defence

'A revolution in military affairs could be in the making'

WASHINGTON, Feb 4, (AP): Changes in the East bloc have opened a new path for US defences, but it remains unclear where it will lead military chiefs and soldiers, weapons makers, political leaders and taxpayers.

"A revolution in military affairs could be in the making," says William Kaufmann of the Brookings Institution, a policy research group. Kaufmann is a frequent consultant to the US Defence Department.

The most frequently asked questions are how radically will the military be reshaped, and will Congress switch defence dollars to social programmes such as housing and education that were squeezed during the Reagan government's military buildup?

Military planners already are rethinking traditional defence strategies, but trying to hold together the North Atlantic alliance. The glue that has kept Nato together for 40 years is fear of a surprise Soviet-led invasion of Western Europe, but few Western experts now believe the Warsaw Pact

armies pose a major threat.

While even the Defence Department's biggest supporters in Congress see more relaxed East-West relations, some caution against assuming that democratic reforms and moves toward free-market economies in Eastern Europe would last if Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev were ousted.

"A return to past Soviet behaviour is the biggest risk we must consider in reordering our priorities and restructuring our own defences," said Sen. John Warner of Virginia, the ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee.

President George Bush proposed to Congress a slight trimming of defence spending, to \$292 billion, for the budget year starting Oct 1. Pressures are great on Capitol Hill to make deeper cuts.

"The reality is that we must plan on our defence budget going down several percentage points every year for the foreseeable future," says Gen. Colin L. Powell, the top US military officer as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.

Kaufmann says military spending by 1999 should be cut to half today's level.

The arms industry boomed when Reagan was president and now employs one in five of the nation's manufacturing workers and one-third of scientists and engineers. The boom may not bust, but some industry workers and their communities already see reason to worry about layoffs and pay cuts.

"There can be a dark side" to the outbreak of peace, Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste said at a special conference of small- and medium-size military contractors Jan 24.

The jobs of about 200,000 Ohio residents depend on the defence industry. Other states, including California, Virginia, Washington, Maryland and Missouri, are even more closely linked to the health of military contractors.

The bright side, in the view of many economists and defence analysts, is that the expected defence savings during the 1990s could be converted to a

"peace dividend" — money to combat homelessness, build new schools, repair old roads and bridges, intensify medical research, combat drug abuse.

Bush's advisers, however, say no major savings should be expected until new arms control deals are struck and the pro-democracy movement in Eastern Europe gains a firmer footing. And they see another use for money saved on defence: paying the huge bills for correcting mistakes of the past, such as untold levels of contamination from nuclear weapons plants.

Despite the caution of the Republican President, debate in the Democrat-controlled Congress over spending priorities in light of a retreating Soviet military menace already is under way.

US National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft said yesterday that US forces in the future will be smaller but "more global" in their orientation.

Scowcroft also said US policy for Europe is one of "continuity and change" to adapt to the massive transformations sweeping Eastern Europe.



Azeris mourn

Thousands of mourners pass a line of more than 100 graves dug into a terrace in a hilltop park in Baku. The graves are for those killed when Soviet Army stormed the city, on Jan 20, to put down a nationalist uprising. (Reuter wirephoto)

Lukanov will make reforms

SOFIA, Feb 4, (AP): Newly elected Premier Andrei Lukanov has promised to move quickly to form a new government and reform the economy.

The assembly unanimously elected Lukanov, a moderate communist reformer, yesterday after accepting the resignation of the former premier, Georgi Atanasov, with one abstention. Only one member had opposed the resignation of Atanasov's 22-member cabinet.

Lukanov said he would present his cabinet Thursday, and that he hoped groups outside the party would help create a coalition government. The opposition initially rejected joining a communist-led government, but has softened its stance.

Lukanov has been the main negotiator for the party at talks with the opposition and is perceived by many Bulgarians as the most trustworthy communist leader.

The multilingual economist, who has worked in government and party politics for years, said he was assuming office during a period of "moral and economic crisis which exists in this country."

"I have the wish to actively do something and to realise all the hopes you have (invested) in this government at this critical moment for Bulgaria," Lukanov told the National Assembly.

He announced plans for setting up an "anti-crisis programme" adding "we have to make fundamental economic

reforms, and we have to do it immediately."

Lukanov said his government would present the main points of the programme to the assembly when it meets to swear in the new government Thursday.

The opposition has sought a more rapid pace for reforms since demonstrations last November forced communist leader Todor Zhivkov from power. The opposition has maintained pressure through protests and called for ruling communists to step down, as communists have done in most neighbouring East bloc nations.

The communist leadership has made a vague proposal to create a government of "national concord" to rule until multiparty elections in May.

Thus far, opposition leaders have resisted participation, saying they would wield little influence with the communist-controlled National Assembly and that the communists haven't made a clear offer on how much power they are willing to share.

Yesterday, Petar Beron, an academic who is senior member of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces, said his group could "certainly refuse to take part" in a provisional government.

Later, however, in interviews with Bulgarian reporters, he left open the possibility of some opposition members joining Lukanov's cabinet.

Beron described Lukanov as a "good choice" and a "very capable and resourceful" man.

Superpower talks on German union

Baker heads for Moscow to meet Shevardnadze

WASHINGTON, Feb 4, (Agencies): The first high-level superpower discussion on German reunification in decades will loom large during US Secretary of State James Baker's visit to Moscow this week, analysts and officials say.

Baker will also engage in difficult and highly technical arms control talks in an effort to progress on the problems holding up two key treaties on strategic weapons and conventional forces.

But a statement by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last week "I think it constitutes obviously a recognition on the part of the Soviet Union that this is something that would have to be considered sooner or later," Baker told Reuters in an interview last Thursday.

"Does that represent a change in view? It's certainly different than the comments we saw as recently as late last fall. But I shouldn't try and characterise it beyond that because I would hope to know more after my forthcoming visit," he said.

Baker, who leaves tomorrow for a 24-hour visit to Prague before going on to the Soviet capital, will meet Gorbachev on Friday and address a unique session of the Supreme Soviet's international affairs committee on Saturday.

The idea of neutrality for a reunited Germany seems to have faded as suddenly as it was raised by East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow, who now says it was only a suggestion.

"I am offering this as something to be considered for discussion," he said in an interview with West German television.

When Modrow publicly backed German reunification on Thursday in a stunning reversal of East German policy, he made military and political neutrality a major condition.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl immediately rejected the proposal.

The Soviet foreign minister is proposing that the issue of German reunification be put to an international referendum because the world suffered so much at the hands of the Nazis.

Eduard Shevardnadze, in an interview published on Friday, said Europe must be assured that another militaristic regime will not arise.

"It is not the idea of German unity itself but the revival of sinister shadows of the past associated with it, as well as a possible growth of militarism, that are met with apprehension in the world," Shevardnadze told a group of Soviet reporters, according to Tass, the official news agency.

"It's necessary to find a method of sounding out public opinion in the most democratic and open way possible, say through an all-European referendum with the participation of the USA and Canada, or at least through wide parliamentary discussions," the foreign minister said.

Meanwhile, East Germany's ruling Communist Party today changed its name from Socialist Unity Party to Party of German Socialism, the official East German news agency ADN said.

The party had for the past two months used both names, calling itself the Socialist Unity Party of Germany — Party of German Socialism.

opening the door to negotiations on German unification and an admission by East Germany's communist leaders that union with West Germany is inevitable has pushed that issue to the top of the agenda.

It prompted West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher to make a swap visit to Washington on Friday to discuss the matter with Baker, who said he would also discuss it with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas during a refuelling stop at Ireland's Shannon on Tuesday.

Senior Romania leader resigns

BUCHAREST, Feb 4, (Reuters): The new Romanian government's chief ideologist, Silviu Brucan, resigned unexpectedly today in a further show of disunity among leaders who took power after the December overthrow of the Ceausescu dictatorship.

Citing public apathy, he said he was leaving because Romanian politics had become "dominated by personal ambition, careerism and political flunkeyism."

Brucan, 73, widely distrusted by intellectuals who regard him as a veteran communist and as aggressive and dogmatic, was the second senior leader of the ruling National Salvation Front to resign in less than two weeks.

Vice President Dumitru Mazilu quit on Jan 26, complaining the new government had adopted Stalinist practices despite an avowed aim of leading Romania to democracy after four decades of hardline communism.

A former ambassador to Washington and head of the Front's foreign affairs commission, Brucan has been one of Romania's most controversial figures since the overthrow and execution of President Nicolae Ceausescu seven weeks ago.

Brucan also complained that two front publications were headed by someone who had "succeeded in manipulating students and intellectuals."

He did not name the person, but his chief of cabinet (chief adviser) Florin Bobinici said he was referring to political commentator Octavian Paler, who has been locked in public polemics with Brucan in recent days.

Asked if Paler was the target of Brucan's attack, Bobinici told Reuters: "You know who is the right one... you are right in your thinking."

Brucan said the man had been in charge of propaganda under Ceausescu for 15 years "when frenetic applause was obligatory" whenever the dictator gave a speech.

Many Romanians were angered when Brucan told the British newspaper the Independent late last month that the country should be led by intellectuals and that the workers would be provided with food, warmth and medicine.

Many intellectuals said such remarks, reprinted in the outspoken newspaper Romania Libera, were condescending and reminded them of Ceausescu's "divide and rule" policies.



Albanian children showing the V-sign during a demonstration in Podujevo town, Yugoslavia demanding Kosovo republic. (Reuter wirephoto)

Appeal for protest Kosovo govt asked to quit

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, Feb 4, (AP): Five ethnic Albanian opposition groups in troubled Kosovo province today called on the provincial government to resign and said up to 300,000 people have signed a declaration supporting their platform.

Veton Surroi, the leader of the Pristina branch of the Union for Democratic Initiative, told reporters that popular response to their petition-style declaration has been "fantastic."

The declaration, issued last week, calls for an end to violence, for multiparty democracy and a dialogue with the authorities to stop what Surroi called "a vicious circle of demonstrations and repression."

He listed the names of what he said were 27 ethnic Albanians killed in clashes with the police in Kosovo in the past 12 days. An official toll published Saturday said 25 had died since the latest round of unrest began Jan 24.

Surroi declared that if the government of Kosovo refuses to resign and be held responsible for the violence it has proven incapable of controlling, then the delegates of the provincial parliament should disown it.

He gave no deadlines but said there was "no way to avoid the responsibility" of provincial politicians.

Surroi also appealed for a two-minute protest — a work stop-

page, honking of car horns and similar actions — Monday and Tuesday afternoons, as well as the dimming of lights and five-minute lit candle displays on those evenings.

The five opposition groups yesterday appealed to the government and presidency of Yugoslavia, which rotates among the republics, to help initiate dialogue between the opposing sides in Kosovo.

Surroi urged an end to demonstrations during attempts to reach a compromise, as these "form an excuse for repression."

He said an ethnic Albanian policeman was severely beaten in the Kosovo town of Urosvac by seven Serbian colleagues this weekend because he refused to use violence.

Meanwhile, riot police fired rubber bullets and tear-gas to disperse ethnic Albanians demanding greater self-rule in Kosovo but fighting there appears to be less intense.

The ethnic Albanians, mostly Muslims, taunted police, hurled stones and chanted "democracy, democracy" yesterday as tanks rumbled through the streets of Pristina, the province's capital.

Helicopters and warplanes buzzed nearby villages as Yugoslav authorities tried to quell the rioting which erupted 12 days ago and in which up to 29 people have died.



Klis expelled

Turkey blames Greece for row

ANKARA, Feb 4, (Reuters): Turkey blamed Greece today for their row over ethnic Turks and said Athens held the key to restoring ties between the two Nato neighbours.

"What happens now depends on the response of Greece. They started the latest problem by declaring one of our diplomats persona non grata," a Foreign Ministry official said.

"We hope that from now on everything will be calm between the two countries," he said.

Turkey has given Greece's Consul-General in Istanbul Elias Klis, a week to leave in retaliation for the expulsion of a Turkish diplomat in the Greek town of Komotini, where 19 people were injured seven days ago in clashes between Greeks and ethnic Turks.

Greece said it was expelling Komotini Consul-General Kemal Gur because Ankara insisted on calling the Muslim minority in Greece "fellow countrymen" and "citizens of Turkish origin."

Greece describes the 120,000 ethnic Turks in the region, under Ottoman rule until 1913, as Greek Muslims. Many of them are in the Komotini region of western Thrace.

The expulsions were the first in at least three decades between the two countries, who have come close to war over such issues as the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus and a 1987 dispute over the Aegean Sea.

Turkish officials said the latest row had derailed, at least temporarily, political rapprochement which started in the Swiss resort of Davos two years ago.

But Ankara-based western diplomats said the dispute could soon blow over.

"Greeks and Turks tend to get very excited and give the impression of high tension but more often than not it never comes to much and is contained," one diplomat said.

A Turkish newspaper columnist accused Greece of "creating a storm in a teacup" with anti-Turk sentiment before general elections in April.

Turkey last week accused Greece of using brute force against the minority in Komotini and made an international appeal to protect the human rights of ethnic Turks in Greece.

There are also about 1.5 million ethnic Turks in Bulgaria and 1,000 in Romania. Some Turks also referred to "kinsmen" in Soviet Azerbaijan during the recent turmoil there.

Greece accused Turkey today of breaking international law by expelling the Greek Consul-General in Istanbul after Athens ordered out a Turkish diplomat.

Foreign Minister Antonis Samaras said in a statement that expulsion of Klis was "impossible to justify according to international law, arbitrary, and a blatant act of political revenge."

Klis was expelled yesterday shortly after Greece declared Gur, persona non grata in a row between the two countries over Greece's Muslim minority.

Ankara has protested to Athens over the detention at gunpoint of two Turkish fishermen by a Greek patrol, Turkish television said yesterday.

The report, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), quoted the Turkish Foreign Ministry as saying the two Turks had been fishing inside Turkish waters off Ayvacik.

It said they were taken to the island of Mitilini. It said the Turkish protest was made to the Greek Ambassador in Ankara.

Turkish prostitutes pay tax but get less protection from rapists than 'women of virtue'

ANKARA, Feb 4, (Reuters): Antiquated Turkish sex laws provide attackers with a virtual licence to rape — as long as their victims are prostitutes.

Turkey's prostitutes, many of whom are licensed and pay taxes, face unequal treatment under the law which says they deserve less protection from rapists than "women of virtue."

"There is no rational explanation of this clause which encourages the rape of prostitutes," Faik Tarimcioglu of the ruling Motherland Party told reporters.

The country's highest judicial body, the constitutional court, has refused to abolish the 1924 law which permits reduced jail terms of up to two thirds for rapists of "women

who earn their living by prostitution."

"The lawgiver has foreseen different penalties after considering the different social effects of sexual assault on a prostitute versus a woman of virtue," the court said in a summation approved by seven of its 11 members in response to an appeal for equal treatment for all women under the law.

"Who will protect a prostitute who may be assaulted in her home after work? This is a social wound," said Bulent Ilk, head of Ankara municipality's health department.

There are about 1,000 registered prostitutes in Istanbul and three times that many unlicensed street walkers.

Housewives, newspapers, columnists, politicians and social workers are championing the prostitutes' cause but there has been no reaction from the women themselves.

"No woman deserves rape. End the discrimination between virtuous and non-virtuous women," Istanbul housewives said in an open letter to the court which they read out in the courtyard of a local brothel as the prostitutes silently looked down from the windows.

"This court ruling should be unacceptable for these women. None have opted to become a prostitute willingly but social conditions have forced them to it," Ilk told Reuters.

Turkey's prostitutes are allowed to work under licence

after confirming in notarised affidavits that their decision to enter the world's oldest profession was voluntary.

Deputies in the Motherland Party and the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party have united to propose a bill to scrap the article.

Huseyin Cahit Kaptanoglu, the President of Antalya Bar Association said the court ruling reflected the image of a "macho state."

"Most of the licensed prostitutes have little or no education and many have children from whom they carefully conceal their true profession," said Tefik Cevikbilen, author of a research document on legalised prostitution.

OIC to celebrate 20th anniversary in Jeddah

Ghabid to review accomplishments

RIYADH, Feb 4, (Kuna): The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) will celebrate its 20th anniversary Wednesday in Jeddah, Radio Riyadh reported today.

The OIC, which consists of 45 Islamic member states, aims at the realisation and reinforcement of solidarity, integration and co-operation between the members in various fields.

The radio added that the Saudi Mon-

arch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz who is to deliver a speech on this occasion, to the Islamic nation, will deputize the second deputy prime minister and minister of defence and aviation Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz.

Aims

Secretary-general of the OIC Dr Hamed Al Ghabid will also deliver a speech reviewing the accomplishments of

the organisation since its establishment.

Eradication of racial discrimination and colonisation, supporting international peace, and security issues, conservation of Islamic holy shrines and supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people and other Islamic nations are also the aims of the OIC.

The main bodies of the OIC include the regular summit conference of Islamic

leaders which is held once every three years and emergency summit conferences as needed by the interest of the Islamic nation as well as the annual conferences of the OIC's foreign ministers besides the general secretariat and other affiliated bodies.

The OIC has held five summit conferences since its establishment till the present, between 1969 and 1984 in Rabat, Lahore, Makkah, Casablanca and Kuwait.

Legal Clinic



SHOULD you have a legal, labour-related or similar problem, kindly send your questions to: Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer, Khaleel Taha, replies to readers' queries.

Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I WANT to take my annual leave. Suppose I go in the month of April for one month, Friday is equal to four days plus five official holidays, it would be nine days. Can I take a total of 39 days leave. Can official holidays be included while sanctioning annual leave.

pay, for the balance of days you did not take leave. And, you also have the right to get the notice period salary — 15 days. However, this depends on whether or not you were terminated in violation of article 55 of the Kuwaiti Labour Law.

for labourers is according to the Kuwaiti Labour Law.

Sri Lankan cleaners.

THE Kuwaiti law does not fix a minimum salary for labourers; the question of salary is agreed by the employer and employee. In your case, if you can prove, with documents, that you were promised KD40 plus 7, then you can file a case through the ministry of social affairs and labour to get the difference in salary from the date of employment. If you resign because your contractual obligations were not met, you are entitled to benefits. However, it is absolutely necessary that you must have documentary proof, saying you were entitled to KD40 but are getting 50 per cent less.

If the agents in Sri Lanka promised the salary, they must have given you something from the employer, in writing, in the form of a letter from the Kuwaiti employer, if there is no such notice or letter or any document, the agent may have cheated you, and you can take action against him according to the law of your country.

I AM a private sector employee. I would like to take up a part-time job to augment my income. Is this allowed under the law? I have found a part-time job but I don't want to do anything illegal, that is why I am seeking your advice. If it is not permitted by the law, please quote the law.

LS.

YOU don't have the right to work for another employer, according to Kuwaiti labour law rules. It is prohibited, by the law, to work for someone other than your employer. This has been stated in Article 11 and 12 of the Labour Law, March 1980. If you are caught working for a sponsor other than your sponsor, you are liable for deportation. I advise you to be careful.

I CAME to Kuwait on a domestic visa in May, 1977. In November 1987, it was converted to a work permit, no. 18 visa. I still hold the visa no. 18. Recently I went on vacation and overstayed for a week. Because of this, my employer wants to terminate my service. In my case, can I get my residence permit transferred to another sponsor as I have completed more than 10 years in Kuwait?

I live in Khaitan. Please let me know if I come under the Farwaniya governorate or the Hawally governorate?

Masman Jini.

A FOREIGNER must stay on no. 18 visa for 10 years to be eligible to seek a transfer of residence from one sponsor to another before completing three years service.

In your case, your visa was transferred to no. 18 in 1987, which means you have not completed 10 years stay. The previous period of stay is not counted as 10 years of stay. Because you did not complete three years with the present employer, you are not eligible to a transfer of residence either.

According to law no. 156, for 1988, you belong to the Farwaniya governorate.

I AM from Sri Lanka. We are about 110 Sri Lankan workers who came to Kuwait in December 1989 to work for a cleaning company in the city. Our Sri Lankan agent promised us a salary of KD40 plus KD7 for food. But we receive only KD20 plus KD7 per month. We would be grateful if you kindly let us know what the minimum salary

P.N.

IF you were terminated without a valid reason, you have the right to claim leave

Fish prices hiked due to cold weather

ON INCESSANT complaints from customers on the sudden rise in prices of fish, a local daily interviewed a number of salesmen who attributed the high prices to a disruption in fishing activities as a result of inclement weather.

Jabbar Lafta, a fish salesman said that uncertain weather conditions had precluded venturing out to sea and this had resulted in dwindling supplies of fish creating the position where demand far outstripped supply.

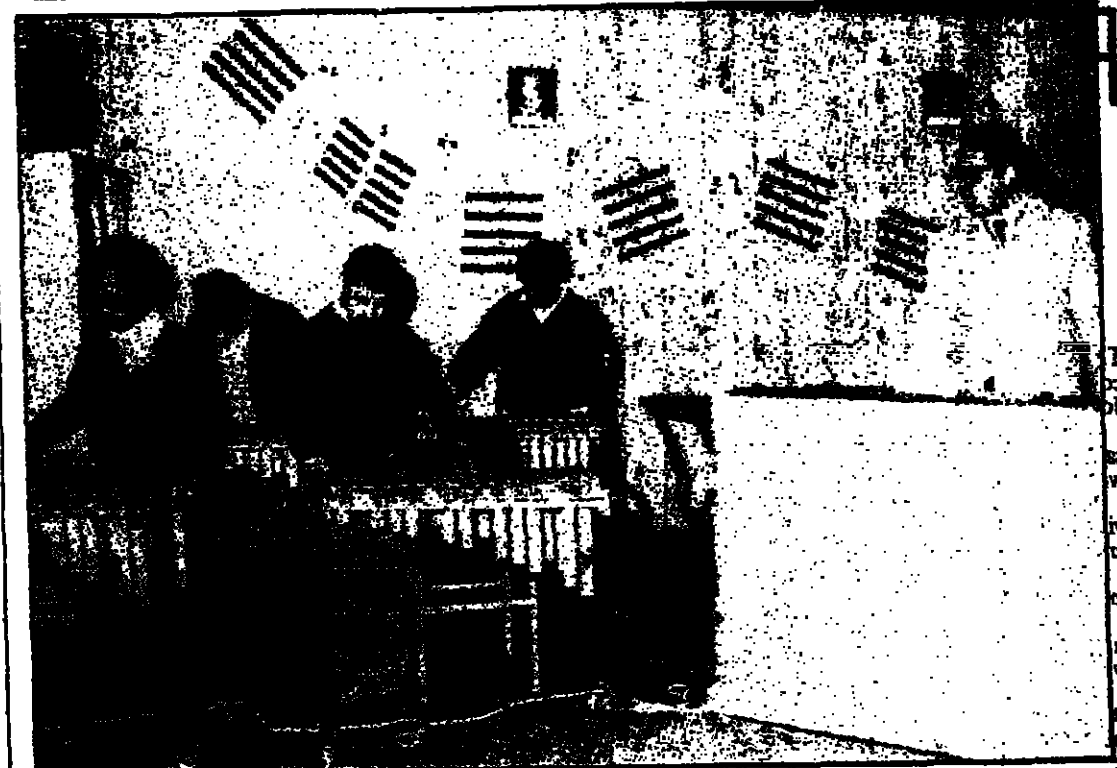
He pointed out that the price of the Iranian Zubaidi touched KD3 per kilo. Pakistani Zubaidi was sold at KD2 and shrimps were KD2.500 per kilo. However, he clarified that these prices were only temporary. He added that it is common to observe that fish prices are always higher during the cold season when supplies drop.

Ahmad Abdullah, a consumer said that fish prices which were normal a few days ago, had registered a phenomenal increase and cited Zubaidi as being primarily affected, followed by shrimps.

Health centre

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (Kuna): A specialised health centre will open in Mangaf Area on February 28, the Public Health Ministry announced yesterday.

The centre will have clinics of a wide range of medical specialisations including dentistry, ophthalmology, gynaecology and dermatology, the ministry said.



Young handicapped boys learn music at their special school

Over 600 handicapped children live isolated

Special schools available in Kuwait

IT IS INDEED surprising that for an affluent country such as Kuwait, some citizens consider that children who have mental disorders are a disgrace to their family honour. It is true that some parents provide their handicapped children with special rooms and apartments and hire maids to ensure that they are not noticed by any other humans.

According to statistics, more than 600 handicapped children in Kuwait live in total isolation from people and even relatives. Some families have gone to the extent to isolate their disabled children in basements so their abnormalities will not be seen.

Scientists say that some abnormal genetic characteristics may have been transferred to these unfortunate children and contributed to unbalanced food reconstruction causing disruptions in the brain and nervous system leading to mental disability.

However, scientists claim to have discovered a type of abnormal genetic character during the past twenty years. Not too many people in Kuwait know that the government has established a number of schools specially designed to address the needs of disabled individuals.

A local daily toured a boys school in Sharq and interviewed the headmaster, Tawfeeq Mohammed Al Thanoon and filed the following report.

Tahnoon stated that at this school they deal with individuals on the basis of their mental ages not their real ages. He pointed out that some individuals had attained the age of 20 years but teachers treat them at mental ages which range between 7 and 8 years only. The role of the school is to develop students skills and provide them with movement, mental, verbal and mathematical skills.

He explained that these cases may have been caused from the negligence of parents when their body temperatures rose while they were kids which have negatively affected brain cells. Other cases involved at the school have been caused by accidents as a result of falling on the head area or related to genetic disease. He added that in all of these cases patients are not the causative factors per se for their mental deficiencies.

The headmaster indicated that the number of students who were accepted at the school during the academic year 89/1990 totalled 28 in addition to 61 students who were registered last year. This brings the total number of students to 89 of whom 66 are Kuwaitis and 23 non-Kuwaitis.



If properly trained the disabled can become active members of society

Hestated that school doors are open to receive other students. Tahnoon urged parents who did not yet register their children at the school to bring them for registration stressing that it is a good opportunity for them to develop their skills. He pointed out that since the establishment of the school in 88/89 students mentalities and skills have been developed dramatically due to the efforts exerted by the teaching staff who have previously attended training courses in order to learn on how to deal with this group of individual students.

Co-operation

With respect to parents co-operation, Tahnoon said that the school was keen on the fact that co-operation between the school and parents is the best way towards the success of any educational operation. He

praised parents co-operation with the school administration and teaching staff. He pointed out that several symposiums were organised by the school and parents participated in shedding more emphasis on handicapped and methods applied in dealing with them. A vital project is currently being under study on the future of students after they complete the educational requirements.

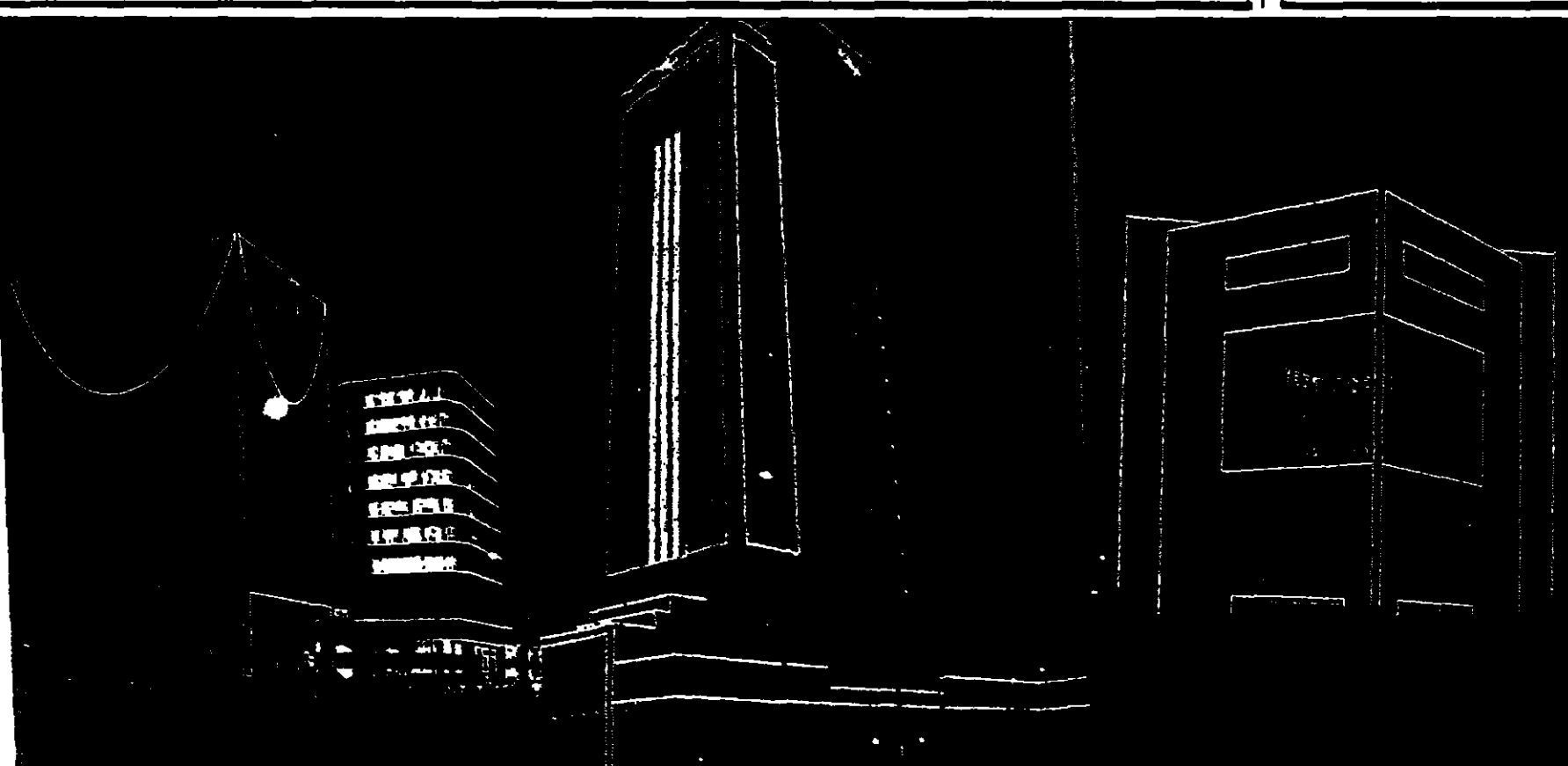
He stated that many alterations were made on acceptance conditions for students. He added that students who are at a level of below 55 per cent are eligible for registration.

Tahnoon pointed out that students cases interested in joining the school are viewed by the Genetic Medicine Centre at the Ministry of Public Health in order to indicate their mental levels.

He said that the poor promotional campaigns to advertise local products was also another key reason for the underdevelopment and lack of suitable consumer appeal to local industrial products. To compound this issue is unavailability of legal statutes to protect local products from the competition, waged by imported stuffs.

Another citizen said that local industries produced simple commodities which were mainly manufactured by people with little experience in the field, compared to the more vital and substantial commodities produced and imported from abroad which were the result of long experience.

He stressed the need for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to lay down legal measures to protect local industries, encourage their development, and ensure better promotional campaigns as well as marketing channels for local products.



Lighting up for National Day

Kuwait is all set to start the celebration for National Day, which falls on Feb 25. A large number of buildings in downtown Kuwait City already wear the festive look with illuminations brightening the night sky. By the end of the month, most buildings would

be illuminated to bring in yet another year of independence and prosperity. (Photos by Saeed Al Khalidi)

Ministry of Education keeping abreast of changes in curricula

THE director of curriculum at Kuwait's Ministry of Education Abdulrahman Al Dowaihi was quoted as saying that the ministry's curriculum were changing from time to time to keep abreast with the latest technology.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that all changes were conducted in accordance with the Arab Educational Conference and were aimed at unifying of Arab curriculum.

He disclosed that the department had withdrawn a book in the English language curriculum namely, "Communicative Grammar" after being subjected to an experiment for two years.

Meanwhile, the official said that his department with the co-operation of the private education committee had been formed which has been empowered to withdraw any book or to debate any chapter in any book in case

such an action is in favour of the educational process.

He said that the department had added a book for foreign schools in Kuwait namely Islamic Culture to be studied by the Muslim students at these schools.

He disclosed that the ministry's curriculum was being set up in co-operation with several authorities including Educational Research Centre, Educational Technique Department, Ministry of Awkal and Islamic Affairs, Kuwait University, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait Teachers Society, the Arab Centre for Educational Research and the educational areas.

The official said that the Arab Centre for Educational Research is playing a significant role towards setting up of the Arab Gulf unified and developed curricula.

In a related development the dean of admission and registration at Kuwait University Dr Sabah Qaddoumi was quoted as saying that there were several plans for developing deanary personnel in addition to the refurbishing of deanary premises.

In an interview with a local daily Qaddoumi said that the deanary intends to apply the latest technology to organise the admission and registration process at the university.

He said that he will do his best to make the role of the deanary positive in addition to intensifying cultural and information activities.

In conclusion, the official thanked the Higher Education Minister Dr Ali Al Shamlan and the Rector of Kuwait University Dr Shuaib Abdullah for the trust given to him by appointing him as a dean of admission and registration.

Teachers' performance reviewed

THE assistant undersecretary of education for private education Dr Yacoub Al Sharrab said that private education department of the ministry is concerned in educational activities at the Arab and foreign schools. He added that there are about 140,000 pupils studying in the private schools and 80,000 of them study in Arab schools. They study in 120 buildings and being taught by more than 5,000 teachers, he said.

He pointed out that department controls and supervises the administrative, financial and educational sides at these schools. Inspectors and supervisors follow up the performance of teachers at the private schools. It also controls and supervises the payment policies of these schools to make sure that they abide by payment scales put by the ministry.

Consumers show preference for imported goods

A LOCAL daily has carried out a survey to find out the public views on the consumers reluctance to purchase locally-produced commodities.

Salah Abdul Karim Ramadan said that the consumer sought imports when shopping inside his country's markets, without giving the slightest attention to the quality of the locally-manufactured commodity coupled with the potential long-life and freshness of these commodities.

Naji Salem Fahd expressed his trust in local products and preference to purchase national products which he did with complete sense of assurance that there are no dangerous additives which could undermine the nutritional value of the product. He said that despite the limited number of locally-produced commodities, people still prefer these articles and rushed to buy them in favour of imported stuffs particularly with the high government support of national products.

Fahd Abdul Rahman Al Sumait has said that the increasing preference by consumers of locally-produced items is an unfailing sign of the quality of these products. This trend is greatly manifested in the desire by people to use lime bricks for their houses instead of the

imported Jordanian bricks, and the same applied to local textiles, blankets and other which were of high quality, matching international specifications.

Mohammad Al Otaibi said that the establishment of a sound industrial stake in the country relied primarily on the availability of the raw material. However, it is clear that the raw material is imported and so is the manpower in Kuwait, where the supposedly local products are actually assembled at home which could not be labelled as 100 per cent local products.

Though, he said that oils and lubricants produced in Kuwait are of very high quality, which explained why he and many people would feel assured to buy, however he buys other commodities, such as foodstuffs, and blankets of Western make for their higher quality.

Mohammad Abdullah Yousef said that he preferred Kuwaiti products and commodities in a bid to support local production and encourage the promotion of locally-produced commodities, which would ultimately support the country's economic system and basically revealed a responsible sense of patriotism.

Adel Naser Al Shaya said that the existing quality gap between local and imported

products is the main reason for the consumers preference of imported products, and that based on personal experience he found imported products more reliable and durable.

Another citizen explained that the inability of the local industries to attain high international standards was a major reason for the poor progress made by these industries.

He said that the poor promotional campaigns to advertise local products was also another key reason for the underdevelopment and lack of suitable consumer appeal to local industrial products. To compound this issue is unavailability of legal statutes to protect local products from the competition, waged by imported stuffs.

Another citizen said that local industries produced simple commodities which were mainly manufactured by people with little experience in the field, compared to the more vital and substantial commodities produced and imported from abroad which were the result of long experience.

He stressed the need for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to lay down legal measures to protect local industries, encourage their development, and ensure better promotional campaigns as well as marketing channels for local products.

Arabic text: الحمد لله رب العالمين

Prevent kids from watching TV violence: producer

Positive role models essential in development

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

TELEVISION is a powerful tool and there must be a degree of parental control on what children are allowed to watch, according to Ms. Brown Johnson, executive producer of the US-based network, Nickelodeon.

In a Worldnet dialogue, organised by the USIS, Kuwait, Johnson said "If parents can, they must select the type of shows their children watch."

Johnson believes children must be prevented from seeing too much violent television, because they have a tendency to follow role models, and imitate what they see.

"As a mother I find it frightening (that they might get) anti-social or invaluable messages through television," she said.

Johnson feels television should be "positive" and stimulate creativity. She also said that television should be a medium through which a child can "laugh, relax and feel good about himself."

In the US, she said this was particularly vital because a large majority of children come from broken homes and single parent families, including the stress they face at school. In this background, children need to develop self-confidence and feel good about themselves.

"You must not look down at them, from an adult point of view; you must look at them from their own perspective, portraying them in identifiable situations," she said.

"They must see children on the screen in familiar situations, in

situations that hopefully teach them positive values," she explained.

Johnson produces three programmes for the Nickelodeon television network. "Eureeka's Castle" is a puppet and cartoon show for preschool children, designed to "comfort their children's anxieties and apprehensions" about starting a new stage in their lives; "Hey Dude," a situation comedy-drama on the theme of how to get along with one another and how to rely on oneself when modern conveniences are not always at hand; and "You Can't Do That On Television," comedy sketches and jokes on themes important to adolescents.

"The overall tone is to let young people know that they are growing up and it is perfectly acceptable not to always look pretty or always be happy or follow trends," she commented.

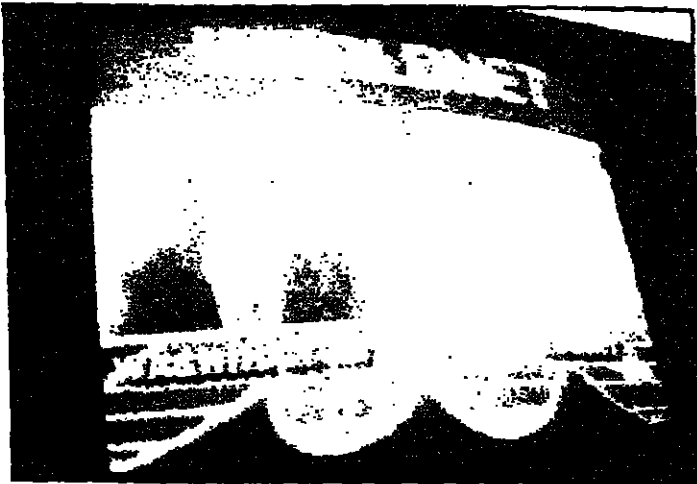
Established in 1979, Nickelodeon is a cable television network, exclusively for children's programmes. It broadcasts more than 50 children programmes to 48 million American homes.

Johnson said most of Nickelodeon's programmes are "children's versions of adult shows," catering to the two to 12 year olds. These include comedies, dramas, talk shows and sitcoms, catering to a "child's fantasy" and curiosity.

Television in today's society is a vital factor, especially as children are introduced to the medium at an early age, often when they are as young as one year old.

She said it is a powerful tool that must be used carefully, inculcating in them moral values, like honesty, and issues like drug addiction.

She said "Violence on television is of concern. Young children



Brown Johnson on Worldnet.



Abdel Wahab Sultan



Awatef Al Bader

should not be exposed to violence, and people must be careful about the content of shows."

The Kuwait panel consisted of Abdel Wahab Sultan, director general

of Arabian Gulf States Joint Programme Production Institution (AGS-PPI) and Awatef Al Bader, independent producer and pioneer of children's theatre.

Kelly may find Gulf satisfied with US policy

MANAMA, Feb 4. (AP): US Assistant Secretary of State John H. Kelly, now touring the Gulf region, should find Arab leaders generally satisfied with Washington's policies, US sources said today.

They said Kelly may be asked to assess the impact of anticipated defence budget cuts on American military activities in the Gulf.

But they said neither the prospect of major defence spending cutbacks nor the impending withdrawal of three more US warships from the region were likely now to cause concern among Arab leaders.

Kelly, Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East and South Asia, met over the weekend with officials in Saudi Arabia, the first stop on a tour that will include Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Iraq.

US officials have said that most of the Gulf Arab states, while publicly condemning superpower involvement in the region, privately welcomed US efforts to protect oil sea lanes during the Iran-Iraq war.

But at the same time, some Arab leaders expressed doubt about Washington's resolve to sustain a military commitment so far from American shores.

American forces have been sharply scaled back since the August 1988 ceasefire in the 8-year Gulf war.

Water is thicker than feud

(Continued from Page 1)

centrepiece of a major hydroelectric and irrigation project in their impoverished southeastern province.

The 1,460-mile (2,300 km) Euphrates originates in the mountains of eastern Turkey and runs through Syria and Iraq before flowing into the Gulf.

The Turkish action triggered protests in Syria and Iraq, who fear damage to their agriculture and a worsening of international quarrels over scarce water resources.

The Kuwaiti daily said that the overtures were started by Damascus when a Syrian delegation visited Baghdad "to discuss taking a unified stand over the Euphrates issue."

The daily said Baghdad and Damascus adopted as their blueprint a legal study by the late Salah Al Tarazi of Syria on the rights of Iraq and Syria to the Euphrates waters.

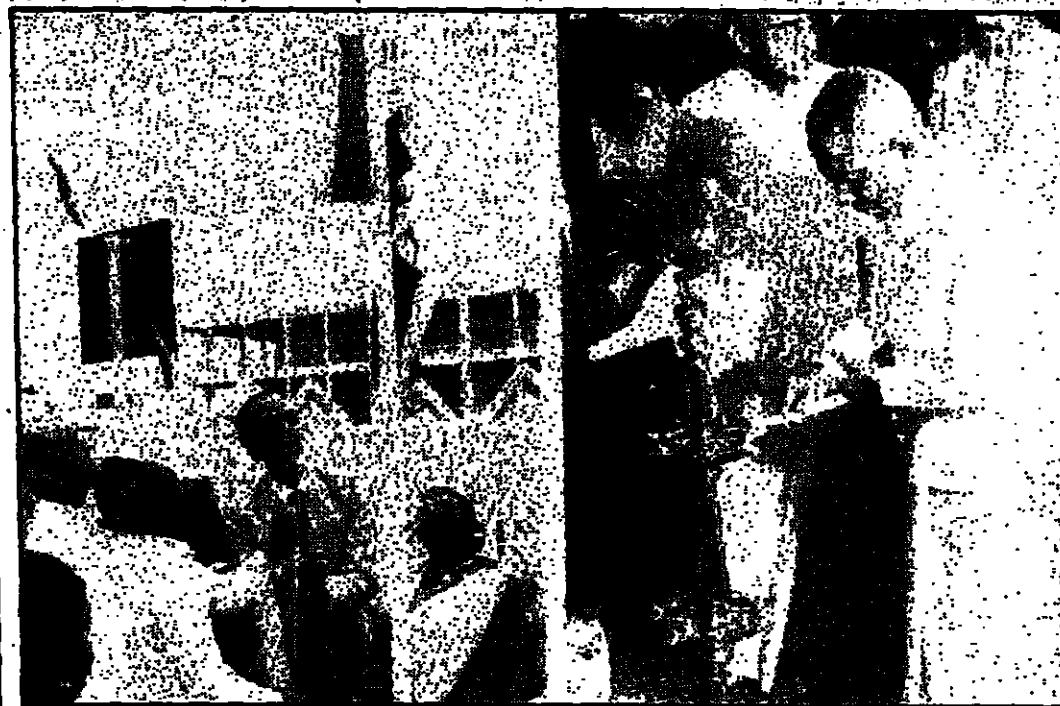
Al Tarazi was Syria's permanent delegate at the United Nations before he was chosen as a judge at the International Court in The Hague.

"Though the discussions were confined to the Euphrates waters, they indicate an imminent improvement in relations between the two countries at a time when both Iraq and Syria are preparing for a period of domestic openness," the paper quoted one of its sources as saying.



Sri Lankans celebrate National Day

The Sri Lankan community in Kuwait yesterday celebrated their country's National Day. A large number of Sri Lankans turned out for the flag-hoisting ceremony. Picture shows Ambassador Latif Sherifdeen (below) hoisting the flag and lighting the ceremonial lamp while patriotic Sri Lankans sing their national anthem.



Arabs unlikely to restore ties with S. Africa

ABU DHABI, Feb 4. (AP): Arab countries are unlikely to resume ties with South Africa despite the lifting of a ban on the African National Congress, officials said today.

Arab governments are cautiously satisfied with moves to ease apartheid but a restoration of ties remains ruled out until Pretoria fundamentally changes its policy toward Israel, they said.

"The Arab states had initially boycotted South Africa because of the racist regime and because of that regime's close co-operation with Israel, especially in matters hurting our (Arab) nation," said a senior official at the United Arab Emirates Foreign Ministry.

The official was replying to a question about possible diplomatic ties with South Africa after Pretoria removed the ban on the ANC and promised to release Nelson Mandela.

Israel and South Africa reportedly have co-operated in the development of their nuclear capabilities, and have economic and political links.

Manoeuvre

The official, noting that the ANC has been waging a 30-year guerrilla war against white rule in South Africa, also said:

"I believe that what is now going on in South Africa is a kind of manoeuvre by the white minority government, as I don't think they will

surrender so easily."

Pretoria's recognition of the opposition parties did not mean reconciliation, he said, giving as an example the United States' year-old dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"The US recognition of the PLO did not mean reconciliation as it (Washington) still places obstacles in the way of the PLO participation in peace talks," he said.

Diplomatic sources, who also could not be named under their embassy rules, said the news from South Africa was welcome but that it was premature to comment upon.

"There are good reasons to be optimistic at seeing reform in South Africa, but it is too soon to be optimistic," said an Arab diplomat.

The nations of the 22-member Arab League are officially pledged to a political and economic boycott of Israel because of the unresolved Palestinian problem, and South Africa because of its policy of apartheid.

Only Egypt broke ranks over Israel when it signed a peace treaty with the Jewish state in 1979 after regaining its occupied Sinai Peninsula.

No Arab national except in the case of Egypt with Israel, is permitted to travel to Israel or South Africa and an economic boycott, enforced by special league organs, bans trade with the two regimes.

Arab conference on aviation culture opens

KUWAIT, Feb 4. (Kuna): The Second Arab Conference on Aviation Culture opened here today with delegates of several Arab aviation organisations taking part.

Addressing the inaugural session, board chairman of the International Organisation for Aviation Culture (IOAC), Kamal Najeeb praised the outstanding role being played by the Arab Organisation for Aviation Culture and its various efforts and activities on the globe since its establishment in 1986.

He said the era of the '80s had witnessed a great advancement in space and aviation sciences and Arab organisations were required to initiate necessary arrangements to counter the challenges of the current decade

to cope with progress in this field.

Najeeb stated that the Arab Union for Air Transport, at the present time, discussing the challenges of the '90s and studying its impact on the industry in the Arab world, noting that the union's efforts in this regard were taken behind closed doors.

He said people were not aware of the activities of the organisation and added that this fact was conceded by the Arab organisation for aviation culture which envisages holding enlightenment efforts through the media to highlight future plans.

The IOAC chairman called on Arab countries to negotiate "as one bloc" with the European group to deal on an equal footing and just basis for achieving interests of Arab countries in free markets and stations where their

aircraft stop.

Speaking at the opening session, the board chairman of the Arab Organisation for Aviation Culture and president of Egyptian Civil Aviation authority major general Ali Zico gave prominence to the organisation's message in spreading aviation and space sciences and culture among Arab youth.

He said the conference would concentrate on two major issues comprising short-term challenges in aviation and the impact of the proposed single market among the EEC states on Arab airlines as well as appropriate means for spreading aviation culture in the Arab world.

The conference went into working session immediately after the opening meeting to discuss topics on the agenda.

Kuwait condemns killing of Saudis

KUWAIT, Feb 4. (Kuna): Kuwait today expressed deep sorrow on the assassination of three Saudi diplomats in the Thai capital of Bangkok and condemned the terrorist act.

An official source of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs affirmed to Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) that this terrorist crime was aimed at innocent civilians working for the service of their country, and Kuwait strongly denounces this ugly crime and expresses its solidarity with the Saudi brothers.

The source added that Kuwait conveys its condolences to the Saudi Arabian King, government and people and asked that God grant patience to the martyrs families.

The Saudi diplomats in Thailand Abdullah Abdulrahman Al Basiri, Fahd Abdullah Al Bahli and Ahmed Abdullah Al Saif were killed Thursday by so far unknown terrorists and were buried yesterday.

Meanwhile Qatar too has condemned the recent assassination of the three Saudi diplomats in Bangkok.

The official Qatari News Agency said today that the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani has sent a cable of condolences to Saudi Monarch Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud on the killing of the three Saudi diplomats.

Sheikh Khalifa expressed his country's condemnation for what he described as a criminal and ugly act, reaffirming the need for joint world efforts to fight terrorism and take decisive procedures toward those acts.

In Bangkok, Thai officials yesterday played down the impact of a Saudi ban on Thai workers, saying they hoped the ban would soon be lifted and that in the meantime it would help ease Thailand's shortage of skilled labour.

Cabinet slams expansion policies in occupied lands

Amir to visit Oman

KUWAIT, Feb 4. (Kuna): The Amir of Kuwait, HH Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah will pay an official visit to Muscat at the invitation of Sultan Qaboos Bin Sa'eed of Oman, it was announced here today.

The announcement was made following a cabinet session here today, chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla.

According to the announcement, the Amir will be visiting Muscat during February 10-12.

The delegation accompanying him will include Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed, Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi, Undersecretary of the Amir Diwan Mohamed Darweesh Al Aradhi, Kuwait's Ambassador to Oman Abdul Wahab Al Adssani, senior officials from the Amir Diwan, Board Chairman of Kuwait News Agency, President of the Kuwait Journalists Society and editors of local papers.

The cabinet announcement wished for success of the Amir's

visit in advancing the interests of the two brotherly people, within objectives of the Gulf Co-operation Council and those of the Arab and Muslim nations.

The cabinet condemned the influx of Soviet Jews into occupied Arab territories, emphasising that this influx supports the expansionist policy upheld by the Israeli leadership and encourages Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A government spokesman later said that the council of ministers had followed with much anxiety and deep concern news of the intensive emigration by the Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab lands, with all that it represents of direct support to the expansionist policy pursued by the Israeli leadership and encouragement to Zionist settlements in occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

While condemning this catastrophic event, the spokesman Rashed Al Rashed, Minister of

State for Cabinet Affairs, said the cabinet appealed to all international sides, foremost the Soviet Union which is bound to the Arab states by ties of co-operation, friendship and common interests, to take immediate measures to stop this influx of refugees.

The council of ministers underlined the need for urged world action in view that the immigration constitutes a flagrant violation of the Arab people's rights in occupied Palestine and poses immense danger to the future of the Arab nation and in a manner that would reflect seriousness of these parties and their credibility in advancing efforts for a comprehensive settlement and establishment of peace in the area.

At the outset of its weekly session, the spokesman said the cabinet reviewed results of last week's visit to the country by the King of Bhutan and his talks which centred on the close bilateral relations and other questions of mutual interest.

Search on for man at sea

FROGMEN of Kuwait's Navy along with forces of the Coast Guards continue their search for citizen Abdullah Yousef Al Haggan within Kuwaiti regional waters.

The man was presumed lost about ten days ago with his relative Salem Al Haggan during a sea outing.

Frogmen recovered the body of Salem from the sea near Bin-aider area last Sunday. The deceased was a captain in the Kuwait Army, 36-year-old, married with four children.

Abdulla who is 28-years old and single works as L/Corporal at the National Guard.

Meanwhile a Filipino woman in her 40s was killed in a road accident on Saturday.

The accident occurred on the road that separates Keifan from Shamiya area. According to the report, the victim was sitting besides the driver in a small car when it collided with an American car.

The victim died instantly, but the driver of her car was hospitalised and the driver of the American car was not injured.



Rain! Rain! Rain!

Umbrellas from the attic were brought out as residents and nationals in Kuwait celebrated rain in Kuwait. For a better part of yesterday, the country faced a slushy, gray dull day with rainfall recorded at 3.4 mm. Today, weather experts said there is a 'good chance' for rain.

Conference for joint investments

Manama to play host

MANAMA, Feb 4. (GNA): Manama will host the first working seminar in the Gulf during the month of March under the patronage of the minister of state for cabinet affairs Yousef Ahmad Al Sherawi to discuss means to encourage investment in joint GCC projects.

Senior businessmen and industrialists in addition to director of Licensing Department and officials operating in the investment sectors at GCC ministries and public authorities as well as representatives from the UN development programme and the Gulf Industrial Consultations Organisation will be participating in the seminar which will be held on March 14 and 15.

According to the local Al Ayyam daily, the seminar will discuss the most efficient approach to deepening intra-GCC co-operation and integration through investments in joint GCC projects.

The paper added that four working sessions would be held on the fringes of the seminar, the first will be patronised by the GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs Dr Abdullah Al Quwaiz where discussions would deal with joint GCC projects and the GCC economic integration process.

Dr Ali Khalifa Al Kuwari will be presiding over the second working session which would be devoted to discussing available investment opportunity on joint GCC projects and necessary amendments

required for existing investment policies on joint projects.

Prospects for activation of investment initiative on GCC joint projects and the role of the private sector and the GCC's different establishments in this respect would be the main topic at the third working session which will be chaired by the former secretary general of the Gulf Industrial Consultations Organisation Dr Abdullah Hasan Al Moajel.

Feasibility study

Sources close to the investment department at the Gulf Investment Establishment were quoted by the paper as saying that Dr Jassem Al Manai, head of the department, would submit a report detailing the results of twenty pre-final economic feasibility studies made on potential GCC joint projects.

The paper added that the study results showed that 15 projects had special financial attraction of varying levels, which would render the remaining projects of special appeal to government circles to solicit the necessary support, such as customs protection of small industries.

The Gulf Investment Establishment, the paper continued, revealed that Bahrain currently hosted 58 joint projects which formed the largest of the total joint projects currently under implementation of which were the Gulf Air, Bahrain Aluminium Company, while 56 projects resided with the banking sector.

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ARAB TIMES

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REVENGE does us more harm than the injury itself —
John Lubbock, English astronomer-mathematician
(1803-1865).

Influence undergoes trial

Baker starts diplomatic foray

WASHINGTON, (AP): As revolutions rock East Europe and some Germans demand reunion, US Secretary of State James Baker embarks on a diplomatic journey this week that tests the superpowers' influence on the fast-paced events.

In Baker's bulging briefcase are a dozen tough problems, ranging from the German issue and the sometimes nasty turns the changes in Eastern Europe have taken, to the lingering 12-year war in Afghanistan between the Soviet-backed Marxist government and Western-backed Muslim rebels.

The centerpiece of Baker's nine-day trip, which begins this evening, is a face-to-face session with Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev towards the end of the week in Moscow. That will give Baker a firsthand account of the course the Kremlin is taking on German reunification and of how Gorbachev is addressing Soviet political and economic problems.

Surrender

Rumours last week that Gorbachev might surrender his post as general secretary of the Communist Party at a Central Committee meeting today and tomorrow renewed US interest in his personal fate and the course of Soviet reform.

Baker and President George Bush, both whom have hailed Gorbachev and his reforms, are making a calculated effort to bolster the Soviet leader as he tries to overcome resistance to his programme of perestroika.

Baker is taking new offers of technical co-operation to Moscow, and in three days of talks with Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze hopes to remove some of the remaining roadblocks to completion of a treaty to reduce US and Soviet long-range nuclear missiles, submarines and bombers by 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

The idea is to have a treaty ready for Bush and Gorbachev to sign at a Washington summit meeting in June. Baker's talks with Shevardnadze, which begin Wednesday night, are intended as preparations for the event.

Baker also is prepared to extend the promise of trade privileges, provided the Soviets codify their recent easing of emigration restrictions.

At the same time, though, the Bush administration has to assess ways of encouraging democratic trends in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in the event Gorbachev's powers ebb.

There seems to be little doubt, however, that the Bush-Baker team is determined to co-operate with Gorbachev. The question that hangs over Baker's mission, apart from the slow response of the Soviet economy, is how much influence the two superpowers working together can have on world events.

The accelerating drive by East and West Germans to form one country again — and the tremors this causes among some Europeans — apparently is only slightly responsive to US and Soviet wishes.

Opposition

Gorbachev last week softened his opposition, saying unification was not in doubt but must come as part of a revision of Europe's political and military structure.

But West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Saturday flatly rejected a Soviet proposal that Europeans and North Americans vote on whether German unity should be allowed.

Baker, meanwhile, reiterated US support for reunification but steered clear of picking and choosing among the approaches that have surfaced.

Among them is one by Hans Modrow, the East German Premier, for a neutral, single state that would belong neither to NATO nor the Warsaw Pact, and another by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher that would keep Germany in NATO but leave the East German region demilitarized.

Baker met with Genscher on Friday night on the German question and planned a session with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas at Shannon airport in Ireland early tomorrow while Baker's jet is being refuelled.

Transition

Pursuing a fast pace, Baker will then fly to Prague for 27 hours in the capital of Czechoslovakia, the Central European ally of the Soviet Union that is in the midst of an untroubled transition to democracy.

During that brief visit Baker will meet with President Vaclav Havel and other leaders of the new government and make a speech in which he is expected to strengthen his qualified endorsement of a 35-nation European summit meeting this year — a Gorbachev formula for easing East-West tensions.

Bush set the tone for Baker's trip in his State of the Union speech with a proposal to cut US and Soviet troops in Europe to 225,000 with a limit of 195,000 in Central Europe.

That meshes with calls on Gorbachev by Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary to remove Soviet forces — and with Gorbachev's apparent willingness to comply — while leaving tens of thousands in East Germany.

On Saturday, at the end of his Moscow visit, Baker will make an unprecedented appearance and answer questions before the 44-member international affairs committee of the Supreme Soviet, the nation's chief legislative body.

He will make a brief opening statement and then answer questions for 30 minutes in the presence of US and Soviet reporters.

On the way home, Baker will stop in Ottawa, Canada, to attend a meeting Feb. 12-13 of NATO and Warsaw Pact officials to discuss an "open skies" proposal that would open US and Soviet territory to overflights.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1500 — Ludovico Sforza, with aid of German and Swiss mercenaries, recovers Milan from France.
- 1556 — Truce is signed between France's King Henry II and Spain's King Philip II.
- 1679 — Peace of Nijmegen between Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I and France's King Louis XIV.
- 1782 — Spanish forces capture Minorca island, off Spain, from British.
- 1792 — Tipu Sultan of Mysore, India, is defeated in war with British and Hyderabad, cedes half of Mysore to British.
- 1811 — King George III's insanity necessitates British regency act whereby Prince of Wales becomes prince regent.
- 1818 — United States signs treaties of friendship with Denmark and Portugal.
- 1885 — Congo state is established under Belgium's King Leopold II as personal possession.
- 1917 — Mexico becomes a federated republic of 28 states.
- 1945 — US troops under General Douglas MacArthur enter Manila, Philippines, in World War II.
- 1958 — North Korea proposes withdrawal of all foreign troops from North and South Korea.
- 1962 — France's president Charles de Gaulle calls for independence for Algeria on basis of friendly co-operation with France.
- 1971 — US Apollo 14 astronauts land on moon.
- 1976 — Earthquake in Guatemala takes almost 23,000 lives.
- 1988 — About 200 Arab protesters raise outlawed Palestinian flag and hurl rocks at Israeli riot police at holy Islamic site in occupied Jerusalem.
- 1989 — Algeria's president proposes new national constitution, dropping references to socialism and opening door to a multi-party system.

World's most influential prisoner
Mandela: symbol of defiance

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (AP): Nelson Mandela, given a life sentence for plotting sabotage to overthrow the South African government, became the world's most influential prisoner during what he described as "long, lonely, wasted years."

Unheard and unseen by the public since 1962, he nevertheless came to be the most admired leader among South African blacks, who consider him the embodiment of their quest for political freedom.

In the past, Mandela, 71, has rejected the government's repeated offers to release him if he would renounce violence or live in a tribal homeland. He said the government should renounce violence, and apartheid and urban his movement — the African National Congress.

On Friday in Cape Town, President F.W. de Klerk declared that the ANC was legal again and said Mandela soon would be freed unconditionally.

After Mandela's historic meeting July 5, 1989, with president P.W. Botha, a statement by the ANC leader was released by the prisons service and broadcast on government-run radio and television.

He said he had not deviated "from the position I have taken over the past 28 years, namely that dialogue with the Mass Democratic Movement and, in particular, with the African National Congress, is the only way of ending violence and bringing peace to our country."

Contribute

"I only would like to contribute to the creation of a climate which would promote peace in South Africa," Mandela said.

De Klerk replaced Botha in August 1989, and met with Mandela at his Cape Town office on Dec 13, 1989, amid intense expectations that the prisoner would be freed in the new year.

Mandela regularly has entertained his family and streams of friends in a comfortable house at the Victor Verster prison farm in the wine-growing region of Paarl. He had been transferred there on Dec 6, 1988, after recovering from tuberculosis contracted at Pollsmoor prison in Cape Town in August.

Expectations of his release had been raised before, but each time the government balked at freeing the man many blacks believed should be their president.

Former information minister Stoffel van der Merwe said in July 1988 that Mandela had served enough time to pay for his crimes and that the only thing keeping him in prison was the government's uncertainty about the effect he would have on politics and national security.

It was a tacit admission of what Botha had denied for years — that Mandela was a political prisoner.

In 1985, Botha had allowed Zindzi Mandela to read her father's response to the latest offer of conditional release before a crowd in Soweto, the township outside Johannesburg where Mandela had rented a home since the 1940s.

"Only free men can negotiate. Prisoners cannot enter into contracts," Mandela said. "I cherish my own freedom dearly but I care even more for your freedom. Too many have died since I went to prison. Too many have suffered for the love of freedom... not only I have suffered during these long, lonely, wasted years."

During his imprisonment Mandela was regarded as leader of the African National Congress, although the highest office he held before it was banned in 1960 was deputy president-general.

He was the first commander of its military wing, "Spear of the Nation," which he helped form in 1961 to engage in a programme of sabotage against South Africa's white-ruled government.

He subsequently toured Africa, receiving military training and explaining the ANC's cause. He was arrested after his return, in 1962, and sentenced to five years' hard labour for leaving the country illegally and inciting blacks to violate the law by striking.

Mandela told the court that when his sentence was ended he would "take up again, as best I can, the struggle for the removal of those injustices until they



Mandela: soon to be released

are finally abolished once and for all."

"I have no doubt that posterity will pronounce that I was innocent, and that the criminals that should have been brought before this court are the members of the... government," he said.

In July 1963, while Mandela was at the Robben Island maximum security prison near Cape Town, police uncovered the ANC's underground headquarters on a farm near Johannesburg and seized documents outlining plans for the guerrilla campaign, including Mandela's diary.

In June 1964, he and seven co-defendants were sentenced to life in prison.

Sabotage

"I do not deny that I planned sabotage," he said in his statement from the dock. "I did not plan it in a spirit of recklessness, nor because I have any love of violence. I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation that had arisen after years of tyrannical exploitation and oppression of my people by whites."

He said he "cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities... it is an ideal which I hope to live for and achieve, but if need be an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

His wife, Winnie, jailed or banished through much of his imprisonment, said, "in each and every single letter he has written over the past 20 years and in each and every visit, he has always been confident that he will come out and lead his people to liberation."

During most of his 18 years on Robben Island, Mandela endured substandard food, deprivation of news and reading material, and hard labour that

included gathering seaweed and smashing rock. Yet he often wrote his wife that the hardest thing to endure was the treatment he received.

He wrote that he sometimes wondered "whether any kind of commitment can ever be sufficient excuse for abandoning a young and inexperienced woman in a pitiless desert."

In April 1982, Mandela and five colleagues were transferred to Pollsmoor prison in a white suburb outside Cape Town. They shared a large cell where Mandela cultivated a vegetable garden and complained about the conditions. He was allowed to pursue his studies for an advanced law degree, which he received in early 1989, and eventually began receiving uncensored newspapers and radio reports.

Mandela's communications with his wife and family were restricted to 40-minute visits and one 500-word letter per month, monitored to make sure only family matters were discussed. On May 12, 1984, Mandela and his wife were allowed to visit for the first time in 22 years.

Mandela was born July 18, 1918, the son of a tribal chief, and received a relatively privileged upbringing in Transkei, a Xhosa homeland where the government has declared an independent republic. He attended Methodist schools and was admitted to the black university of Fort Hare in 1938, but was expelled in 1940 for leading a student strike with Oliver Tambo, now the ANC's exiled president.

To avoid an arranged tribal marriage, Mandela fled to Johannesburg, where he worked as a policeman at a gold mine, as a law clerk, and for a real estate agency run by Walter Sisulu, later to be imprisoned with him. Mandela boxed as a heavyweight and studied law at the predominantly white University of the Witwatersrand.

Calm returns to rebel-held areas

TORIT, Sudan, (Reuters): A couple of shops have reopened in Torit and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has built a roundabout for the half-dozen vehicles that constitute the town's only traffic.

No one appears to be starving and there are even a few peasants selling food in the market. After a year of SPLA occupation, life is slowly returning to a precarious normalcy in Torit and several other rebel-held towns in southern Sudan.

Most of the crumbling brick buildings are devoid of furniture and many are pockmarked by bullets from the seven-year civil war. But the hospital in Kapoeta, 130 km (80 miles) east of Torit, has been repainted and its dispensary is now equipped with drugs provided by international relief agencies.

Tribesmen

Proud-looking Toposa tribesmen dressed in skins move large herds of cattle across the town's little-used airstrip. Relief agencies are vaccinating their animals against rinderpest.

Large white tents in Kapoeta and Torit store food aid trucked in from Kenya. But following a burst of activity last year, when the United Nations spent millions of dollars supplying Kapoeta and Torit by truck and air, only a trickle of food aid is reaching these and other rebel-held towns on the east bank of the Nile.

Norwegian People's Aid, which has been operating a relief programme in rebel-held areas of the south since 1986, sends a truck convoy with 300 tonnes of food from

Kenya every week.

But with relief flights suspended by the Sudanese government since November 3, virtually no other food aid is arriving.

Life is still precarious for a million or more displaced people in the rebel-held areas who have abandoned their homes and farms to seek refuge from the war in unfamiliar places.

The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 to end what it sees as domination of the mainly Christian and animist south by the Muslim Arab north.

"Last year when I first came here the people were dying on their feet," Leo Ballard, director for East Africa of the US charity World Vision, told Reuters in Kapoeta.

"Look at them now, they are in a good state," he added as a group of tall Toposa women strolled past.

But the problem is there is nothing in reserve. If you didn't keep bringing in food, after a month or six weeks they would be back where they started."

Controlled

On the east bank of the Nile, where an area the size of neighbouring Uganda is now fully controlled by the SPLA, the roads have been made passable and a trickle of food aid is reaching most of the main towns.

But on the west bank, where the SPLA is advancing steadily against the Sudanese army, there is still an unrelenting crisis.

The small town of Kajo Kaji, which fell to the SPLA on January 6, has bullets to spare, but virtually no food for an estimated 20,000 people who have flooded into the district

from the besieged garrison town of Yei further west.

"At first those who arrive are absorbed into the homes of their relatives, who share with them the little they have," Martin Okeru, the SPLA's civilian administrator in Kajo Kaji, told Reuters.

But there are no food stocks, the hospital is closed and the SPLA in Kajo Kaji does not even have a vehicle. The United Nations plans to repeat its 1989 Lifeline Sudan relief plan to prevent famine in the south this year.

But a donors' conference to raise funds for 90,000 tonnes of food to be delivered to needy people in both government and rebel-held areas was put off from November to February.

Relief agencies say the delay in organising the conference means they will lose opportunities to transport food cheaply by overland routes during the dry season. Flying it in is up to 10 times more expensive.

UN officials in Nairobi complain their relief operations have been hampered by the Sudanese government's ban on relief flights, imposed after the air force began bombing rebel-held towns three months ago.

Resume

The government said last week it would allow some flights to resume, but it has not yet authorised any to rebel-held areas.

Many relief workers are seething about what they call UN waste, inefficiency and extravagance.

"They have got about three staff members for every tonne of stuff they send up here," one foreign aid worker in Kapoeta told Reuters.

Letters to the editor

Simply disgraceful

SIR: This is with reference to the Pakistani People's Club news which appeared in your newspaper dated Jan 30.

One does not need to spend more than 42 years of his life outside Pakistan to realise that there is poverty in Pakistan.

What a way to gain some cheap publicity! Perhaps it is more surprising that a self-proclaimed Pakistani politician took 42 years to discover the poor in Pakistan and would like to do something to save these poor Pakistanis.

It seems the gentleman even does not understand that poverty is a common problem in underdeveloped countries and Pakistan is not an exception to it. The government back in Pakistan is trying its best to provide the basic needs of every citizen with dignity and graceful manner. And through your columns I would like to inform such persons that Pakistan has never ever made such fund-raising public appeals to support its more than 100 million population during the 43-year history of her independence. As such, it is beyond truth that the Pakistan government would approve and even tolerate such appeal by a group of so-called social workers cum immature politicians.

They even don't realise by giving such an exposure to Pakistan what disgrace they have brought to the dignity of a nation of 100 million people.

The credibility in Kuwait of both the groups of People's Club is also in doubt.

Issuing such fund collection appeals in presence of the Pakistan embassy officials in a general public meeting makes things more complicated for a person like me to understand the underlying motive. One should be careful while staying in a foreign country and particularly in the present political circumstances back in Pakistan.

"This news can be interpreted in very different ways."

May I seek the following clarification:

* What is the original source of this fund collection idea? Who authorised them to make such a disgraceful public appeal on behalf of the Pakistani community?

* Is it an international fund-raising campaign or is it only for Kuwait?

* What project do they have in mind to help the poor of Pakistan?

* What is the estimated amount they would like to collect? And how?

* How and by whom are the funds going to be handled here in Kuwait?

* To whom are they going to transfer these funds back in Pakistan?

* What are their criteria for judging whether one is poor or not?

Name and address supplied.

Wake up!

SIR: I recently took my children to one of the cruises in town. The performers did a great job and gave an enthralling show. I am not content about them. My own children with me people who have a say about local entertainment.

As an American Muslim, I feel disappointed that Kuwait Muslims don't think enough of themselves to ask that costumes be slightly altered for a Muslim audience.

The circus I went to appeared to be from an Eastern European country where French-cut leotards and bikini tops are perfectly normal circus attire. However, it is against Islamic principles of modesty for women to be uncovered to that extent and even my 5-year-old daughter knows that. When the snake-wielding belly dancer came out she said, "I'm not going to laugh because it's a shame." And it is, but most grown-ups appear to be afraid to speak their mind for fear of being called backward or fanatical.

I wish Kuwait would wake up and realise it's alright to be a Muslim. You have a right to ask from these people who are making millions of entertainment dinars, to dress according to your standards.

Sandy Duncan,

Adailiya.

Make us proud

SIR: As we are all aware, national carriers are representatives of their countries. In 1989, all national carrier offices in Kuwait planned to redecorate or shift from smaller offices into bigger ones (for better business).

But we are ashamed to say that Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) shifted into a smaller office from a bigger one. The PIA management thought it economically viable to shift into a smaller office instead of redecorating their old bigger office.

Since everybody in this world is thinking about the future and making efforts to go forward, it's amazing that our country thinks it needs a huge amount of loans.

We request the PIA management to take suggestions from the Pakistan community before undertaking any change. It looks as if the organisation doesn't want their country's flag up. We all hate what PIA has done because it degrades Pakistan. Please do make us proud.

Javald Iqbal,

Kuwait.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"In Africa, millions of men, women and children remain threatened never to enjoy good health, never to succeed in living with dignity through their labour, never to receive an education that expands their intelligence, to see their environment become hostile and sterile, to lose the wealth of their ancestral patrimony, while being deprived of the positive contributions of science and technology." — Pope John Paul.

"I appeal to workers, peasants, intellectuals and all workers in the republic to start work without delay and to eliminate the backlog, the destiny of every one of us and all of us depends on this. The sooner we win our own calm and order, the sooner troops will leave the city." — Azerbaijani Communist Party leader.

Arabic calligraphy: لا اله الا الله

Saudi media deplore Iran terror

NICOSIA, Feb 4, (Reuters): Saudi Arabian newspapers said today that seven months after the death of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini, terrorism was still part of Tehran's foreign policy.

It was the first attack by the government-controlled Saudi media on Iran for several months, dashing hopes that relations broken two years ago would soon be restored.

The newspapers were commenting on a call by over 100 West European parliamentarians on Friday for Iran to be

expelled from the United Nations, saying a government that had executed 90,000 people was not worthy of a seat.

Form

"Terrorism has become a clear form of the Iranian regime's foreign policy," a Jeddah-based newspaper said.

"His (Khomeini) successors have used terrorism as a language in a bid to impose certain twisted concepts on their foreign policy," Al Yom said.

Al Madinah newspaper said Tehran was

responsible for a series of murders, hijackings and other violent acts "spreading havoc, tension and fear in more than one part of the world."

Attack

The editorials carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency (SPA) received in Cyprus made no link between the charges and the killing of three Saudi embassy staff in Bangkok on Thursday.

King Fahd on Saturday said the attack would not make Saudi Arabia change its

policy on terrorism.

"History has shown that terrorism and those behind it will be met with failure and defeat," SPA quoted him as saying.

Saudi Arabia cut ties with Iran in 1988, one year after more than 400 people, mainly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during demonstrations at the annual pilgrimage.

The election of Iranian President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani last year fuelled speculation that Saudi-Iranian relations would improve.

Intifada to stay unarmed: PLO

Jews won't be flown to Israel, Soviets assure

TUNIS, Feb 4, (Agencies): One of the main leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation said yesterday the PLO would not change its strategy of unarmed uprising against Israeli authority in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Nayef Hawatmeh, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, also said a ranking Soviet official assured the PLO that Jews leaving the Soviet Union would no longer be flown directly, non-stop to Tel Aviv.

Hawatmeh, speaking to reporters after a three-day meeting of the PLO's Executive Committee at its headquarters in Tunis, said the organisation "remains committed to its engagement not to use firearms in the occupied Gaza Strip or the West Bank."

"Our arm is the intifada (uprising) of the Palestinian people who are following it in a peaceful way, throwing stones and Molotov cocktails," the Marxist group's leader said.

This raised hopes that the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States could meet soon to make preparations for the first Israeli-Palestinian talks, which would probably take place in Cairo.

Meanwhile, China's Foreign Ministry said yesterday it was "gravely concerned over the recent massive emigration to the Israeli occupied Arab territory."

China condemns Israeli authorities for dispersing Palestinians in the West Bank and their proposed establishment of a "greater Israel," the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry statement said China is opposed to any attempt by Israel to change the status of the occupied territory by establishing settlements there. Such moves are detrimental to the Middle East peace process, it said.

Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, the Saudi second deputy premier, minister of defence, aviation and inspector-general has called for a unified Arab position to face the dangers posed by the increasing emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

His remarks came in an interview published in the latest issue of the London-based Arab weekly magazine, Al Hayat and carried by the Saudi Press Agency.

He warned that Israel will make the new wave of immigration a pretext to expel Arab residents from the occupied territories and establish settlements for the new huge number of immigrants.

A United Arab Emirates newspaper said today a mass influx of Soviet Jews to occupied Pales-



Gennady Tarassov



Nayef Hawatmeh

time was part of a deal between the Soviet Union, the US and Israel.

"All indications show that such an emigration is part of an Israeli-American-Soviet deal and the stands of the three parties prove that," the Dubai-based Al Bayan said.

Citing such stands, it said Israel was seeking contracts with airlines from East Europe to accelerate the exodus of Soviet Jews before Arabs could have the chance to press Moscow to revise its attitude on the issue.

It said reports from Moscow also showed a deliberate slowdown in transferring Jews to Israel because the Kremlin wants to keep the prices of air tickets of those emigrants and force East European airlines to take them for tickets in Soviet currency.

"In collaboration with forces in Lebanon, we are continuing to harass Israeli troops who are

occupying southern Lebanon." Hawatmeh said the PLO's discussions with special Soviet envoy Gennady Tarassov on the question of the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel were very positive.

"The Soviets assured us they would stop all direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv, a method that leaves no other choice of destination for Soviet Jewish emigration candidates," Hawatmeh said. A stop in Vienna, he said by way of example, would allow these immigrants a freedom of choice.

He said the United States was behind the problem.

"After pleading for a long time for the emigration of Soviet Jews, the United States has imposed a quota of their entry into its territory," he said, adding that the Soviets had promised to bring the problem up with the Americans.

Rebels rain 8 rockets on Kabul

KABUL, Feb 4, (Agencies): Mujahedeen rebels rained eight rockets on the Afghan capital yesterday but casualties were reported to be light.

The official Bakhtar information agency in a report on Sunday said the rockets were fired at residential areas of the city "wounding five persons and inflicting military losses as well."

One of the rockets hit an empty house near a government television station on top of a peak, witnesses said.

The agency said six of the rockets were long-range missiles containing cluster bombs with delayed time fuses and anti-personnel mines.

Kabul claims the sophisticated missiles have been supplied by the United States and Pakistan to the Afghan rebels to create "mass murder and wreak havoc and terror in the cities."

The information agency said anti-personnel mines scattered by the missiles were defused by security forces.

Soviet S-200 missiles targeted on suspected rebel mountain strongholds, were heard striking out from a Kabul military base in apparent retaliation for the attack.

It was the heaviest attack against Kabul since Wednesday when a car bomb explosion in a city centre killed six people and injured 122, according to official statistics.

Since the car bomb-blast, missiles in the capital have been tightened. There are more police in the streets and more military checkpoints and vehicles are thoroughly searched before being allowed to enter main streets.

A government spokesman told reporters yesterday that in the previous 72 hours 31 rebels were killed and 46 wounded by Kabul garrison troops in mopping up operations south of the city.

Diplomats expect rebels to step up their rocket attacks against major cities in the days leading to the first anniversary on February 15 of the Soviet troops pullout from Afghanistan.

A leader of Afghanistan's government in exile, Abdul Rasoul Sayyaf, left yesterday for Qatar in quest of Islamic aid to help wrest control of Kabul from the government.

Abdul Rasoul Sayyaf, who is prime minister in the exile government, said mujahedeen forces "are achieving victories" despite the meagre military resources at their disposal, the Gulf News Agency reported.

Sayyaf, who also has visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, leader of the Ittehad-i-Islami Party. He is accompanied by reconstruction, interior and defence ministers who represent other parties included in the seven-party provisional government.

Mohammed Saeed Hashemi, adviser to the defence minister and secretary of the Harakat-i-Insliab-i-Islami Afghanistan Party said that Islamic aid had dwindled after "exaggerated press reports about inter-mujahedeen fighting."

An Afghan tribal meeting of more than 15,000 refugees condemned Afghan rebel leaders yesterday and called for the return of former King Zahir Shah from exile to lead them.

Zahir Shah, who lives in Rome, has said he is willing to play a role in Afghanistan only if supported by the majority of Afghans.

Syria to allow political parties

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (Kuna): Syria will witness shortly political openness under which different parties will be permitted to resume their activities and issue their own newspapers, press reports said here today.

A Kuwaiti daily newspaper said today the Syrian capital will witness this month a gathering for all parties and political forces during which a declaration legalising these parties' activities is expected.

Meanwhile another Kuwait daily quoted unidentified Syrian sources as saying that the Syrian leadership has permitted the establishment of a number of new political parties.



Journalists beaten

Police clubbed news photographers, injuring five of them, while trying to disperse protesters on Saturday after the funeral of an assassinated leftist.

Thousands packed the funeral of Muammer Aksoy, head of Turkey's Law Association and a moderate leftist, who was shot by unidentified gunmen on Wednesday evening.

Police ordered about 7,000 demonstrators protesting the killing to disperse as the law professor's coffin was placed in a hearse to be taken to the cemetery.

The demonstrators started throwing stones at the police. Photographers trying to take pictures of the scene were hit and clubbed by the police, reporters at the scene said. They were treated at a local hospital.

No demonstrators were injured.

The association of Turkish Press Photographers denounced the police behaviour.

Picture shows the policemen lead away an injured journalist beaten by riot police during the clash. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel gets secret PLO list

East bloc spilling the beans

KUWAIT, Feb 4, (Kuna): A Kuwaiti daily today, quoting Palestinian sources, revealed that Israel had received from the security apparatus of an Eastern bloc country a long list of Palestinian names, files and documents of different PLO factions.

The daily said that these Palestinian groups had received a military training course in this Eastern bloc country which was one of the countries that greatly sympathizes with Palestinians, topped by the PLO.

The East European country, which the paper declined to identify, had given military and security assistance to different Palestinian groups, the source added.

Israel had received a full chart with the names of Palestinians who had received military training

courses, the chart includes full details about the PLO's activities there.

The sources said that senior officers in that country had informed Palestinian leaders of the issue and warned them that Israel is striving to conclude similar steps with other Eastern bloc countries.

Lately, a military co-operation agreement was reached between the Eastern bloc country and Israel.

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens leaves for Prague, Czechoslovakia, Thursday on a three-day visit during which Tel Aviv and Prague will restore diplomatic relations, Radio Israel reported today. The radio said that Arens will sign an agreement with his Czechoslovak counterpart Jaromir Johan on Feb 8 on the restoration of diplomatic relations.

Lebanon for Lebanese: Dole

Special US envoy to Beirut proposed

LOS ANGELES, Feb 4, (Agencies): Senate Republican leader Bob Dole called yesterday for US diplomatic pressure on Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and said all other forces including Israel's should stay out of Lebanon as well.

"Lebanon belongs to the Lebanese — not to the Syrians, not to the Iranians and not to the Israelis, either," Dole said.

He made the comments in a speech prepared for delivery to the American task force for Lebanon, which was presenting him its Man of the Year award.

Dole said a special US envoy should be appointed to deal with Lebanon matters to "make it clear that the United States is serious about Lebanon."

He urged the Arab League to seek a timetable for withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon and said US diplomacy should be used to help Syrian forces out.

"We can't continue to sit this one out," Dole said. "We must step up our direct diplomacy — yes, our pressure — on Syria."

But Dole said the biggest barrier to a solution in Lebanon was not Syrian and other foreign intervention but Lebanese factions' unwillingness to seek a solution.

He appealed to all Lebanese leaders to "end the killing, join together with a unified demand



A Muslim family packs its belongings and flees to south Lebanon after their area was hit by shells fired from East Beirut as troops loyal to General Michel Aoun fought pitched battles against the Lebanese Forces. (Reuters wirephoto)

for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, and go on in a spirit of patriotism and not factionalism to a serious dialogue about the political future of Lebanon."

"For too many in Washington, Lebanon has fallen off the screen. The only 'issues list' that it tops is the list of those issues to avoid in the future," the senator said.

Dole is the most powerful

Foreigners accused

Turning Red Sea into war zone

ADDIS ABABA, Feb 4, (Agencies): President Mengistu Haile Mariam has accused unidentified foreign powers of "turning the Red Sea into a zone of war and destruction," the official news agency reported today.

The Ethiopian news agency said Mengistu also accused these powers of "attempting to delineate the direction of our foreign policy and massively arming our enemies."

Mengistu spoke yesterday at a graduation ceremony for Air Force cadets at Debre Zeit.

"Ethiopia's waters and soil are the very life blood of neighbouring coun-

tries but the Ethiopian people have been repaid with enmity and open invasion and when this was not possible by the massive arming of proxies," Mengistu said.

This was an apparent reference to Sudan, which depend heavily on the waters of the Nile River for irrigation.

Ethiopia has repeatedly accused Sudan of permitting the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front, the Tigre People's Liberation Front, and the Oromo Liberation Front to transit military supplies across the common border.

Muslim fundamentalists harass Egyptian belly dancers

CAIRO, Jan 4, (Agencies): Muslim fundamentalists are waging a campaign of intimidation against Egyptian belly dancers, claiming their age-old art violates the Islamic principle barring women from exposing themselves to anyone but their husbands.

The campaign against belly dancers is the latest twist in a long-running struggle between religious fundamentalists — who favour a return to Islamic values — and the more secular, Western-oriented administration of President Hosni Mubarak.

"Our group is fighting vice by breaking up weddings where alcohol is served and

where belly dancers perform," Mahmoud El Khodari, a 30-year-old Cairo car mechanic and Muslim fundamentalist leader, told the Egyptian daily Gomhuria.

Several hundred Egyptian, Turkish, Syrian and Lebanese women, using finger cymbals and wearing costumes decorated with coins, still perform the art in Cairo nightclubs. But the government, bowing to pressure from Muslim fundamentalists last year, agreed to bar belly dancing from television.

"We beat up belly dancers we find (at the weddings) to deter them from performing," said Khodari, who was jailed after

fundamentalists attacked a police car in retaliation for the shooting death of a militant Muslim leader by authorities.

Khodari, speaking from his prison cell, said members of his young radical Muslim extremist wing have broken into the homes of many belly dancers.

"We go to the home of each one of the six hundred or so belly dancers, and whip each one of them to make them abandon their business for good," he said.

Although belly dancing — a series of abdominal and pelvic gyrations — is thought to have originated in Persia and remains popular in many Mideast coun-

tries, Islamic fundamentalists believe it is sinful because the Holy Quran, dictates a woman should expose herself only to her husband.

In the Cairo district of Andalus, where famous belly dancing nightspots abound, dancers and nightclub owners dismissed the fundamentalist calls for them to abandon their art.

"Ask a mufthy (official expounder of Islamic law) whether belly-dancing is sinful or not," one nightclub owner said. "But I can tell you that belly dancing is so deeply rooted in our cultural tradition, no one can remove it."



Israeli policemen search and arrest two Palestinian youths in Arab East Jerusalem. An Israeli border policeman looks on. Israeli troops arrested tens of Palestinians in raids in the West Bank as they searched for Palestinian activists. (Reuters wirephoto)

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Summit on Israeli 'threat': Sudan called Saturday for an emergency summit of Arab nations to discuss what it described as an Israeli security threat to Red Sea states.

Sudanese military ruler Gen. Omar Al Bashir told Saudi newspaper Al Nadwa Al Saudia the restoration of Israeli-Ethiopian relations in December posed dangers for Sudan, Egypt and the whole Arab world.

Foreign Minister Ali Salhool told a domestic newspaper an Arab summit was urgently needed to discuss the problem. (UPI)

Bishop defies community: A renegade Armenian bishop shielded by submachine-gun totting bodyguards closed himself inside a room in the St. James Convent and monastery and the Armenian church Saturday protested to the police minister, a spokesman said.

Bishop Shaha Ajemian entered the monastery Friday following the death of patriarch Yeghishhe Derderian and reportedly declared himself successor.

The Armenian patriarch is the spiritual leader of 8,000 Armenians in Israel, the occupied West Bank and Jordan. He is also one of the custodians of occupied Jerusalem's holy places, along with the Greek orthodox and Latin Patriarchs. (AP)

4 million driven to Khartoum: The civil war in south Sudan has so far driven over 4 million out of their homes to the northern provinces said a paper presented at a conference on migration that started in Khartoum Saturday.

The conference, which is designed to review internal migration in Sudan, was told that the drought that hit western and southern Sudan in 1984-85 has contributed millions of migrants who mostly drifted to the capital Khartoum which is already hosting another 1.8 million who fled the war in south Sudan.

The capital is now surrounded by displaced people in miserable make-shift camps swarming with poor, sick and uncared for population that, according to the paper, include about a million children. (Kuna)

Ben Ali sends cable of regrets: Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali sent a cable of condolences to Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz over the assassination of three Saudi diplomats in Bangkok.

President Ben Ali expressed deep sorrow over the loss of the three diplomats who were performing their duty, Radio Riyadh reported Sunday. The Tunisian president also presented his condolences to the families of the martyrs. (Kuna)

Cultural development meet: Representatives from 36 countries open meetings of the intergovernmental committee of the world decade for cultural development in Paris Monday to discuss, among a number of projects, the Bibliotheca Alexandria.

The committee, which is comprised of representatives from the various geographical groups, includes the adviser at the Kuwaiti Amiri Diwan, Abdul Aziz Hussein as one of four representatives of the Arab group.

In its second biennial meeting under auspices of the UN and Unesco, the committee will study reports on the progress achieved in the projects of the decade which lasts until 1997. (Kuna)

Iraq-Syria meetings held: Syrian-Iraqi meetings were held respectively in Baghdad and Damascus in the past two weeks, a local daily reported in Kuwait Sunday.

The paper, quoting diplomatic sources, added that the two countries delegates exchanged visits to Damascus and Baghdad to take a unified stance toward Turkey's decision to block the Euphrates river for one month to fill Ataturk Dam.

The sources noted that although the Syrian-Iraqi meetings centred on Turkey's decision "but it is a sign toward an improvement of relations between the two countries." (Kuna)



Graceful and elegant dancers of the Russian Ballet Company of Moscow.

Russian dancers amaze audience

By Diana Abou Halder
Arab Times Staff

RUSSIAN dancers tiptoed their way into the hearts of their audiences at Al Andalus theatre Friday and Saturday night.

The Russian Ballet Company of Moscow presented a delightful series of excerpts from various classical ballets in addition to a number of contemporary dances.

Although the stage lacked setting, dan-

cers were able to transfer the audience into a land of fantasy where words are not needed. Graceful movements and splendid music told stories of broken hearts, playful love, Tartar raids and gypsy life.

Star soloist, Kaye Kyrb, gave a new meaning to death when she performed a grabbing piece of Sen-San's "Dying Swan." The four-minute performance was the highlight of the evening. Kyrb is the winner of the First Prize Gold Medal at the All-Soviet-Union Ballet Competition held in Moscow in 1984.

Vyacheslav Gordeev, artistic director of the company and premier dancer of the Bolshoi Ballet, also gave a rich ballet interpretation of Russian folk dance in a bright red and white Russian costume.

The only snag in the performances was the recorded music which was too loud at times. It also stopped for a couple of seconds towards the end.

The performances left one wondering why real life is not as beautiful as ballet. But if it were we would not have enjoyed this unique form of art.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.40 Sabah Al Kher, news
- 9.50 Cartoon serial
- 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
- 10.30 Ghoraba Fi Al Madeena: Arabic serial (part 8)
- 11.45 From my Kitchen: local programme
- 12.05 Al Malqoof: Weekly local serial (part 5), starring Abdul Husain Abdul Redha, Mohammed Jaber and Abdullah Khraibit
- 12.30 News summary
- 12.35 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

- 4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 4.15 The World Today via satellite (repetition)
- 4.45 Saham Al Fadha: cartoon serial
- 5.15 Mama Anisa and Children: local children programme, prepared and presented by Sameya Mohammed
- 5.45 Night chemists, air-lines and official advertisements
- 6.00 Al Fareso Al Aashiq:

KTV 2

MORNING

- 7.00 Varieties
- 7.15 Holy Quran and science: religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ahmad Shawqi
- 8.00 Cultural programme (part 4)
- 8.30 Good Evening and local news
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Omsiyat Al Ethneen: Local programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barjes
- 10.15 Al Laaboon Fi Al Nar: Arabic serial (part 13)
- 11.15 Al Mawed: Variety programme (part 5), with guest stars Nadeya Mustafa and Arkan Fuad, prepared and presented by Tawfeeq Khallaf
- 12.20 News summary
- 12.25 The World Today via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

- 6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Winnie the Pooh: A cartoon series for children
- 6.30 Wild South: "Song of Protest". A look at the

KTV 2

MORNING

- 7.00 natural and animal life in South New Zealand
- 7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news
- 7.30 "Spring of Evil": Spring on the island Baron "Devinken" dries out after the disappearance of Lucie the baron's daughter... but water flows again when Jean and Marillo arrive
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Around the World: A variety of topics and events from all over the world
- 9.00 Tour of Duty: "Sleeping Dogs"
- 10.00 Homeroom: A TV star visits the classroom. He is considered as ideal sportsman...
- 10.30 Colourised Movie: The Catered Affair. Starring: Bette Davis, Ernest Borgnine, Debbie Reynolds. A woman, wanting to give her daughter the kind of wedding she never had, uses her husband's savings that had been accumulated to buy a taxi.
- 12.00 News in brief
- 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

CINEMA

- Al Andalus
- Batman
- Salmiyah
- Hall Booked
- Al Hamra
- Ninja Hunt
- Drive-in
- Arabic film
- Al Firdous
- Bandhan Anjana
- Fahad
- Shock Troop
- Al Jahra
- Skatetown USA
- Granada
- Arabic film
- Salmiyah
- Mob Busters
- Jebb
- Hotiyyar
- Amal Drive-in
- North Shore

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.15 am
Zohr	12.02 pm
Asr	3.07
Maghreb	5.29
Isha	6.48

ARTS

Seminar

THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

Stamp Show 1990

IN commemoration of the 29th National Day, the Boushahri Gallery will be holding a stamp exhibition, Stamp Show 1990. The exhibition will open on Monday, February 5, 1990 at 6 pm and will be held until Feb 15. Opening hours (from second day on) are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 pm to 8.30 pm.

Craft Centre

MOTHERS are your hands too full with your tote on weekends? Here's a chance for you to relax and introduce them to creative art. For details contact 5635740, between 9 - 12 noon.

SOCIAL

Konkani drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's "Sonsarant Astana Diar" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funnates) on 16th February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar. Tickets now available at Canary Video (Sharq) and Video Clock (near G.P.O.). Rush for tickets, one show only.

Carnival Fiesta '90

YMCA/Incredible S.C. are proud to announce their Carnival Fiesta '90 at Messilah Beach Hotel (Habiba) on Feb 22, '90.

Non-stop dancing from 8.30 pm onwards to the beat of latest sensation "Hurricane Alley" and "Neighbour."

Highlights: Best Carnival couple (fancy) and many many surprises. For details contact the organisers on Tel. 2450279 (between 8 am to 1 pm) or Tel. 3921712.

Kuwait Little Theatre

Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmad, present the Kuwait Folk Group in concert on 14th and 15th February, at 8 pm both nights. Tickets, can be ordered by phoning 3919759. Videos of the recent very successful pantomime Sinbad the Sailor, can be picked up from the theatre on Sunday 4th February from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Daniella Fastelahn

Daniella celebrates "Fastelahn" for Dunes at Gazelle Club on Friday, Feb 16, at 1 pm. For reservations please call Marianne — Tel: 3710215 ext 29 or Winnie — Tel: 5733382 before Feb 13.

Like a Hurricane!!

SEVENTH Sky's Rock Concert at Al Andalus Cinema on 15th & 16th Feb '90. Featuring Rock, Pop/Rock and Rock 'n' Roll from the 80's. For information and reservation call 5730265/2543219.

Ladies International League

YOU are invited to attend the next general meeting on Monday, February 5, Sheraton Ballroom A. Our programme will be presented by Claude Maxime. Everyone welcome! Doors open 6 pm, programme begins at 7 pm promptly! Door charge.

Kuwait Welsh Society

ST. DAVID'S Day buffet dance Thursday 1st March 1990. At Messilah Beach Hotel. For ticket reservations & more information ring 3713467, 3912384, 5625316.

Valentine's Party

VALENTINE'S Party: Come join the fun. Feb 15 dinner buffet-Top Ranks band, door prizes, Cupid's arrow awaiting! For more information call Nina on 5339623 or Kathy on 2523992 (between 6 and 8 pm).

Punjabi Cultural Society

PUNJABI Cultural Society in Kuwait is celebrating the 117th birth anniversary of great Punjabi poet Padam Bhushan Bhai Vir Singh on Feb 9, 1990 at 6.30 pm, at the Indian Embassy Auditorium. The noted Punjabi writers, poets and singers will participate. Everybody is welcome.

ACT

ACT's production of Thornton Wilder's comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" will be presented on February 27, 28 and March 1 at 8.00 pm at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets can be reserved by calling 5725071 or 5731782.

Kalpak's Drama Competition

KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian Arts Circle on 9th February 1990.

Hobby centre

A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making — For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

British Council

THE ITALIAN JOB: Saturday, 10 and Sunday, 11 February 6.30 pm, 130 min.

The title is Italian but the

case is most definitely British. Michael Caine and Noel Coward star in this fast, entertaining comedy caper. With wild chases galore, the job culminates with the robbers in their mini cars using the piazza, arcades and roof tops to make their getaway causing the world's biggest traffic jam. STUDYING, COMPUTING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE IN BRITAIN Whether you want a short course, a 2-year diploma, a BSc, or a PhD - we have the information you need. Come and visit the Education Office on Monday, 12 February or Tuesday, 13 February and access our computerised database. Our staff will be there to assist you and help find a course to suit you.

Indian Arts Circle

announces the 11 Annual One Play Competition to be held in May 1990. The competition is open to Plays in any Indian language including English. Awards shall include Best Play (1st, 2nd & 3rd), Best Director, Best Actor & Actress, Best Child Actor, Best Stage Setting and Best Acting Performance from each team. Registration form with rules & regulations are available from Indian Arts Circle office at Funnates. Last date of submitting registration form with required details is 28th February, 1990.

Please contact IAC office, (Tel. 3904817) for further details. All Indian associations engaged in theatrical activities are requested to join.

Singapore festival

SAS Kuwait Hotel will feature Singapore Festival on 21st and 22nd February at the tent. The oriental extravaganza will present lion dancers, Chinese dancers, finger painter plus elaborate buffet of popular Singaporean recipes prepared by Singaporean chefs. First of its kind in Kuwait, the show was put up in co-ordination with Singapore tourist promotion board and Singapore Airlines and aims to foster closer relations between the two countries. Tickets available at SAS Hotel front office, Tel. No. 5657000.

SPORTS

Coaching classes COACHING classes for new recruits, who desire to qualify as football referees, conducted by the Indian Football Referees' Association, Kuwait (IFRA), will commence from Friday, February 23, 1990. Interested candidates may contact D'Souza, Tel: 2402631-2; or Anthony Fernandes, Tel: 2445729/2431674 or any members of the committee at the Sour Ground in person for any further information.

Qualified members of any Indian states' referees' associations and/or of Asian/European referees' associations are welcome to join the association as members.

Twin Centre

TWIN Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Inlet Village Football Tournament which will be held on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 23/24th 1990. For further information please contact organisers John 4441860 or Gino 311111.

Now at the MSH Sports Centre

"Life saving course" with Royal Life Saving Society Coach, Grade 1 Examiner will be commencing shortly.

Egocycle Fitness Computer tests and courses now available at Messilah.

Azzerise/Aerobics/Staying power/Yoga and Ballet exercise classes also available.

7-a-side football

VARCA Sporting Centre will organise its 7th annual one day 7-a-side football festival on February 25th at Sour Grounds to mark the Kuwait National Day. The draw will be held on Friday, February 23 at 10 am. For further details and entry forms please contact VSC members or Tel. 5331940 or 2410461 and 4765070.

At the Holiday Inn Health Club and Recreation Centre

SWIMMING lessons available all year round with qualified swimming instructors. Open to non-members. Mon-Tues-Wed 3:30 to 5:30. Beginners-improvers-adults mixed keep fit classes, Wed 5-6 Thurs 6-7, Fri 12-1:00 and 1-2:00, Sat 5-6:00. Ladies keep fit, Mon 5-6, Tues 5-6, Fri 5-6 and Sun 5:30-6:30. Martial arts w/black belt instructor Mon-Wed 6, Taekwondo Sat-Mon, 7-8 Thurs 5-6. Bowling alley available for private company and community tournaments. Five squash courts. Squash handicap every Sunday start 6 pm - all standards, open to non-members.

Squash coaching available from professional coach everyday, from 1 pm. Massage for men and women; gym facilities for men and women; tennis courts - coaching available. Plus lots more. Phone for further details — Recreation Manager, 4742000 ext 6788. Jule/Dent or 6700 recreation.

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Adult sessions with Frank

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Classes total 4 weeks in

length and meet twice each

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available and fun tennis

sessions for the family. Ladies'

Keep Fit Classes on Sundays,

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Ladies' Sauna now offers a 50

per cent discount on the usual

entrance fee. Ladies' Day on

Saturdays and Tuesdays from

9.00 am to 9.00 pm. For details

please call: 2530000/8050

(Recreation).

ACT's The Skin of Our Teeth

HANG on to your mammoths all you mammals out there! It's time for ACT's "The Skin of Our Teeth." Written by Thornton (Our Town) Wilder, the play won the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1942. Wilder called it a "comic strip of the history of mankind." Mankind is represented by The Antrobus Family and the author "hasn't decided if they are living back in caves or in New Jersey today." Together with a host of prehistoric house pets, newscasters, conventioners, refugees, fortune tellers and stage hands, the Antrobuses survive an Ice Age, a Great Flood and a Great Big War by the skin of their teeth. For the audience, the world will never be the same.

The play is directed by George Plautz, who arrived in Kuwait in the fall of 1987 and promptly dove into the amateur theatrical scene. He has directed ACT's productions of "Scrooge," "The Bald Soprano," "The American Dream," "The Madwoman of Chaillot," and has assisted with musicals and children's productions. "The Skin of Our Teeth" will be his swan song in ACT's directorial arena as he

is leaving Kuwait in June. The theatrical community will surely miss him.

Cynthia Lloyd takes to the footlights again as the Antrobus maid, Sabina following her stunning performance in last year's "When the Wind Blows." She is ably paired with newcomer Duke Estes, whose non-Kuwait stage credits include leads in "Death Trap" and "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Mary Anne Greenwell-Plautz, known to Kuwait audiences as "The Madwoman of Chaillot" also returns along with the mammoth talents of ACT regulars Annie Alexander, Debbie Turner, Mohammed Baharoon, Marge Pinnow, Barbara Gould, Rebecca Pinnow, and Alan and Dorothy Weller. UAS teachers Jane Alteman, Dell Taylor, and Barbara Alberts along with student Mohammad Khalaf are also joining the fun. ACT hopes you will, too.

"The Skin of Our Teeth" will be presented February 27, 28 and March 1 at the Universal American School, Salwa. See "What's On" for details.



Duke Estes and Cynthia Lloyd rehearsing for ACT's "The Skin of Our Teeth"

NIGHT CHERRY

Kuwait
Lola Pharmacy
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Salem Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.

Salmiya
Heba Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.
Fahad
Shaiba Pharmacy
Fahad

Kaitan
Whida Pharmacy
Main St.
Jara
AKhalel Pharmacy
Opposite the co-op society

مكتبة الكويتية

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Concentration of power limits freedom of the press

Tycoons' war over media raises cry for anti-trust law

ROME, Feb 4. (AP): Duelling two tycoons for control of Italy's largest publishing company is focusing attention on higher stakes: the independence of press and television.

This winter's battle for dominance of the Mondadori Group points up that few but powerful hands control the media.

For journalists in Italy, "it's possible to be independent, but with difficulty, practically speaking," says Antonio Pilati, a Milan-based consultant and author of two books on the media.

Fifty-two per cent of newspaper circulation is in the hands of five groups. Represented among them are the giants of Italy's largest private enterprise, and Raul Gardini, head of Ferruzzi, a chemicals and agribusiness

giant.

The Italian economy — outside the sizeable chunk in the government's hands — is dominated by these and a few other powerful men. The newspapers in their hands include all of Italy's leading national dailies.

More Italians get their news from television than newspapers, and the airwaves are the virtual sphere of Rai, the state broadcasting network, and of Mondadori's Silvio Berlusconi, who controls Italy's three largest private TV stations and owns a Milan newspaper.

Rai-TV's three stations have been divided up by the three biggest parties — Christian Democrats, Socialists and opposition Communists — and the newscasts reflect party views.

The leading financial newspaper, *Il*

Sole-24 Ore, is run by the National Association of Manufacturers, and the major political parties also publish dailies.

Media experts say it is difficult to determine the effect of media concentration in the hands of industrial tycoons has on what an Italian reads in his daily newspaper.

Indro Montanelli, editor of the Berlusconi-owned *Il Giornale*, has frequently said he has a free hand in putting out the paper.

Pilati contends that decision-makers in banking, finance and other fields make sure to read several papers each day and keep in mind the primary business of the publisher.

However, a recent survey of journalists for *Epoca*, a Mondadori weekly, said 78 per cent contended that the

concentration of power limits freedom of the press. In late January, print and broadcast journalists struck nationwide for 24 hours to protest what they see as slow action to enact an anti-trust law. They blocked TV and radio newscasts and the publication of newspapers.

Attempts to enact anti-trust regulations date back to shortly after the founding of the democratic republic following World War II. But it was Berlusconi's rapid rise in television, with its unsurpassed power to sell ideas and products, that raised the loudest cry for such a law.

Italy did pass a law in 1981, limiting one's ownership of newspapers to more than 20 per cent of total national circulation, but court rulings have effectively nullified the legislation.

Premier Giulio Andreotti's coalition government, when it was formed last summer, agreed to make anti-trust legislation a priority. But the partners have been squabbling over what the limits of newspaper and TV holdings should be.

Under the proposed law, Berlusconi would have to sell one of his stations in order to command the Mondadori empire, which includes two leading newsweeklies and other magazines, book publishing, local newspapers and the *Empire's Jewel*, *La Repubblica*, one of Italy's largest national newspapers.

The bitter courtroom and boardroom battle for Mondadori pitted Berlusconi against Carlo de Benedetti, one of Italy's most influential financiers as head of the Olivetti computer

giant. Nine months later, he had engineered a takeover of three Mondadori holdings, including *La Repubblica*.

In late January, Berlusconi consolidated his position when he was elected by the board as chairman of Arnoldo Mondadori Editore Spa. De Benedetti's camp has initiated new court challenges that could drag on for months.

La Repubblica, a tabloid appealing to up-scale professionals, in its 14 years has become one of the largest and most powerful voices in the Italian media.

Eugenio Scalfari, a magazine editor, founded it in a bid to become an independent alternative to national newspapers controlled by big economic interests, including the 114-year-old *Corriere Della Sera*, once family-

owned and now part of the Rizzoli Group.

Rizzoli is effectively controlled by the Gemma holding company of the Agnelli auto tycoon family.

Scalfari has hinted that he might quit and start a new paper than work under Berlusconi.

Some analysts see more than just an issue of editorial independence behind Scalfari's opposition. The newspaper has long been a critic of former Bettino Craxi, socialist leader and one of Italy's key political powerbrokers.

Says Pilati: "In Italy, there is a very close interweaving between the economic class and the political class." Historian Martin Clark, in his book, "Modern Italy," says industrialists sought out newspapers as "mouthpieces or business props."

Jebel Ali sets new record

TOTAL tonnage handled by Jebel Ali Port in 1989 more than doubled over the previous year to set a new record of 9,966,694 tonnes, up 123 per cent from the 4,475,175 tonnes achieved in 1988.

These results are the best ever for Jebel Ali which completed its first decade of operations in 1989.

"We are obviously delighted with the year's performance which reflects the increasing strength of Dubai's economy and the success of our staff in attracting new business," said Sultan Bin Sulayem, chairman of Jebel Ali Port Corporation (Japco).

New records were set in many areas of the port's activities. The most dramatic increase was in container traffic which leaped 162 per cent, from 69,771 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) in 1988 to 183,165 TEUs last year. Of this, imports and exports both more than doubled, while transshipments, outstanding in 1988, resulted in a 355 per cent increase.

The increase in traffic was reflected in total container tonnage figures which grew by 158 per cent during the year, from 505,437 tonnes to 1,306,359 tonnes.

There were also more container vessels calling at the port: 242 vessels in 1989 compared to 122 vessels in 1988.

Container traffic will continue to be an important area of operations, explains Sultan Bin Sulayem. "With more and more multinational companies choosing Dubai as their Middle East base and with an increasing number using Jebel Ali Free Zone as a distribution centre, we anticipate that container traffic will continue to have strong growth in 1990."

In 1989, 463 tankers called at Jebel Ali compared to 270 the previous year.

General cargo tonnage registered a 42 per cent growth during 1989, with bulk cargo performing particularly well. "We hope to see stronger growth rates in this area in 1990 as more operators become aware of the productivity offered by our port," comments Sultan Bin Sulayem.

"In the ten years the port has been operating, the overall trend has been one of sustained growth," says Bin Sulayem. "We enter the new decade with every reason for optimism. Our prices are stable, Gulf economies are entering a new era of growth, economic diversification and the political situation in the region is stable."

"Jebel Ali is well-placed to capitalise on these conditions and I believe that will help Dubai spearhead a new era of economic prosperity for the region."

Hefty rise in GNP

NICOSIA, Feb 4. (Reuters): Oman today reported an eight per cent rise in its gross national product (GNP) during the first nine months of 1989.

The Omani News Agency quoted official figures as saying the GNP rose to 2.46 billion Omani rials (\$6.38 billion) compared with 2.28 billion rials (\$5.92 billion) in the corresponding January-September period of 1988.

"The (overall) increase is expected to be 12 per cent by the end of last year," the agency, received in Nicosia, said.

The figures put oil revenues at nearly 1 billion rials (\$2.85 billion), accounting for about 44 per cent of GNP.



Yozaburo Tsuchiya (centre) chairman of Sanyo Securities talking to Lima Al Khalafawi, Arab Times reporter. Ross Rowbury looks on.

Innovation breeds success Sanyo and firms tie-ups successful

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

A GROUP of representatives from Sanyo Securities Co. Ltd, participated in a seminar on Investment and Banking organised by the Japanese embassy in Kuwait as one of the activities of the Japan Week-1990.

Sanyo Securities is one of the oldest and largest Japanese security houses. With its innovative methods and development, Sanyo is able to maximise the value for clients in brokerage, investment banking, and related services.

Their trading capabilities in

the Tokyo market took another step during the term when they became one of a handful of security houses that function as the equivalent of primary dealers in Japanese government bonds.

The chairman of Sanyo Securities, Yozaburo Tsuchiya told the Arab Times during his visit to Kuwait that their international operations include marketing tie-ups with leading international asset management companies and were successful in promoting these funds to Japanese investors.

Replying to a question of the business volume and

profitability Tsuchiya said that the sign of profitability of Sanyo Securities last year was 161 out of 2,500 companies.

About the recovery after the world stock market crisis last year, he said that recovery developed quicker after four months.

Sanyo Securities is aiming at having 100 branches by the end of 1990, Tsuchiya said and added they have a number of clients in the Gulf region. Their international network expanded and in January a new representative office in Singapore market was opened. In the Gulf region they have an office in Bahrain.

Experts to discuss accounting and development Date extended for registration

THE organising committee of the second Arab International Accounting Conference — which is due to be held on March 20 under patronage of the Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal has decided to extend the deadline for accepting registration till the end of February.

The president of Arab Society of the Certified Accountants (ASCA) stated that the organising committee wished to allow more time to ministries and other concerned bodies to participate in this conference which is held once every four years and aims at improving the role of the profession within the framework of economic and social development in the Arab world.

Talal Abu Ghazaleh said that the conference will deliberate on "Accounting and Development" and the role which accounting in do to enhance development endeavours in the Arab world.

Abu Ghazaleh added that experts are participating in this

event who will enrich the discussions. Among Arab prominent figures taking part are Dr Taher Masri, ex-deputy prime minister of Jordan, Dr Hisham Al-Dabbas, auditor general and head of the Professional Council in Jordan, Dr Ibrahim Al Abbasi, president of Jordanian Association of Certified Public Accountants (JACPA), Abdullah Al Mualim, from Saudi Arabia.

Habib Bourgeiba Jr., from Tunis, Professor Edward Gress, Canisius College, New York, Dr. Ahmad Moustafa Shawki, Egypt, Dr. Diah Al Hashim, University of California and a number of ASCA members.

Of the international experts Mr. Richard Wilkes, President of International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), Alan Talbot, Chairman of International Auditing Practices Committee (IAPC), Robert Semper, executive president of IFAC, Professor John Small, past

President of the Association of Certified Accountants, and the Right Honourable Jeremy Henly, Member of Parliament (U.K.) in addition to a number of international experts in the profession.

It is noteworthy that the IAPC will hold its first meeting in an Arab country currently with the second Arab International Accounting Conference, which will also be attended by the IAPC members.

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Postwar success of Japan under review Job security is the key word

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

"THE Postwar Success of Japan" — Its historical and cultural background — was the main topic on the second day seminar of Japanese Week-1990.

Professor Toshio Kuroda, Dean of Graduate School of International Relation at the International University of Japan concentrated on three issues including the Japanese mentality, basic characteristic of their management and merits of this management system in the post industrial era.

He said that the Japanese mentality in fact is extremely difficult to talk about. Japanese, are, by nature, not at all self assertive. Nor are they altogether logical.

About the Japanese sense of identity, Kuroda said that yes they have a sense of identity and no, they do not devoid of self assertion. Among Japanese, however these characteristics do not manifest themselves in exactly the same way as they do among other people. Unfortunately, many Japanese themselves are not always aware of this, or do not know to explain it to others.

He said that the Japanese mentality is characterised by a certain intellectual avariciousness, for example in connection with education if their people mastered any new subject then they began to teach it to their fellow countrymen in Japanese.

The second characteristic of the Japanese mentality is group consciousness. They are by nature imbued with a strong collective sense and are for their team spirit.

He added that during the Second World War, the Japanese people worked relentlessly, with absolute dedication. After their defeat, the Japanese continued to work at a furious pace with holidays no Sundays and no Saturdays.

Kuroda said that Japanese companies are, basically, more interested in the overall general ability of prospective new employees, not in their limited technical qualifications to perform some specific jobs. Once people are employed in a company they become as it were, members of a vast, extended family and their position is secure until retirement.

He added that in Japan where the number of privately-owned companies is quite smaller than in Western countries, Japanese people are more concerned with the long health term of the organisation to which they belong. They are not obliged to make short term profits like their Western counterparts.

He said that this is to show how Japan has succeeded in creating an exquisite network of economic organisations adapted to the post industrial age, largely by making full use of her traditional mentality and life style.

The second lecture was presented by Dr Abdullah Al Shimali the Asst Vice President — Corporate Communications of the Gulf Investment Corporation. He spoke about other view of the Japanese culture, how they deal with others and themselves.

Mounting demands for aid EEC ministers to meet

BRUSSELS, Feb 4. (Reuters): European Economic Community foreign ministers meet tomorrow to discuss mounting demands for aid and attention from their neighbours in Eastern Europe, Turkey and the Mediterranean.

The 12 ministers also face a difficult debate on Japanese car exports to the community after 1992, with France, Italy and Spain pressing for continued tight restrictions into the next century.

Although the subject does not figure on the agenda of their regular monthly meeting, the ministers may discuss briefly their reaction to reforms announced on Friday by South African President F.W. de Klerk.

Diplomats said few of the subjects would be settled on Monday.

All of the governments except Greece are likely to agree to respond to Turkey's application for EEC membership by putting off negotiations until after 1992 and developing closer ties meanwhile.

Athens insists that Turkish troops must leave the divided island of Cyprus before relations can improve.

The debate on Eastern Europe will review EEC efforts to aid emerging democracies there and examine proposals by the EEC's executive commission to offer them a new type of association agreement as an alternative to membership.

One contentious issue is whether the Soviet Union should be eligible for the same treatment following President Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement that he wants a multi-party system instead of a guaranteed leading role for the communists.

Gulf Bank weekly market report KD rate firm against dollar

Kuwaiti dinar

BASED on last week's opening middle market foreign exchange rates, the KD exchange rate traded higher against the US dollar ending the week at 290.43 fils compared with its week before last closing of 291.16 fils. The KD was lower against the pound sterling, ending the week at 487.05 fils compared with its week before last closing of 481.43 fils. The KD was lower against the DM ending the week at 173.13 fils compared with its week before last closing of 172.54 fils. The KD was higher against the SFR ending the week at 194.14 fils compared with its week before last closing of 194.86 fils, according to Gulf Bank weekly market report.

The KD was lower against the Jordanian dinar ending the week at 432.19 fils compared with its week before last closing of 431.99 fils. The KD firmed against all other GCC currencies compared to the week before last rates.

As for the KD money market, short term interbank offer rates traded higher within a relatively wide range over the week. One-month interbank rates traded over the week at 8.56 per cent - 8.68 per cent range compared with 8.50 per cent - 8.56 per cent range the week before last. Three-months interbank rates traded around 8.62 per cent - 8.68 per cent compared with 8.50 per cent - 8.56 per cent rate for the week before last. Rates for longer periods also traded higher around 8.62 per cent - 8.75 per cent range for both 6 and 12 months.

World stock markets

Wall Street share prices moved higher over last week, underpinned by programme buying, a technical rebound, and a revival in several takeover stocks. Also a surprisingly strong 275,000 gain in January non-farm payrolls, and a robust 1.9 per cent, December factory orders rise underpinned stocks, as the data suggested recession fears may have been overblown. The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2553 and closed higher at 2603, recording a gain of 44 points over the previous week's closing at 2559.

Share prices on the London Stock Market moved higher last week, reflecting the market's favourable response to the previous week's UK December trade figures and to some aspects of the survey of business opinion by the Confederation of British Industries. Both indicated an improvement in export trends and this, reflected in a firm pound, has encouraged a more optimistic adjustment in interest rate expectations. The FTSE-100 opened the week at 2328 and closed higher at 2352, recording a gain of 38 points over the previous week's closing at 2314.

US dollar

The US dollar traded mixed over most part of the week, as the foreign exchange market lacked a strong short-term view on the direction of the US currency. The dollar over the week was helped by President Bush's address to the State of the Union that the Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to make sharp troop cuts in central Europe. However, later the dollar gave back some of its gains on details of previously released rumours that Gorbachev may resign as Communist Party chief.

The US unemployment rate for the month of January was steady at 5.3 per cent, the same as in last December. However, in a sign of weakness in the industrial sector, manufacturing employment fell in January by 112,000 which is the 10th consecutive monthly decline in factory jobs. Temporary plant shutdowns in the auto industry accounted for most part of the month-over-month decline in manufacturing jobs. On the other hand, the robust service-producing sector generated the biggest share of new jobs created outside the agricultural sector, with job growth up 282,000 in January after a December rise of 172,000.

Japanese yen

The yen opened the week against the US dollar at 142.90/100 yen and closed the week lower at 143.55/65 yen compared to its week before last closing at 142.75/86 yen. The yen traded weaker for most part of the week as active commercial buying of dollar for yen as well as short-covering kept the yen under pressure.

Japan's trade surplus in 1989 was cut dramatically to its lowest level in four years. The cut was mainly due to record spending by Japanese abroad, higher oil imports and finally the strong dollar. The higher US currency is estimated to have depressed the value of Japanese exports (which is denominated in US dollars) by 30 per cent (or \$1 billion) of the 1989 trade surplus.

Pound sterling

The pound opened the week against the US dollar at 1.6805/15 and closed higher at \$1.6840/50 compared to its week before last closing at \$1.6630/40.

The pound moved higher over the week, as it continued to gain support from its 15 per cent yield, which was keeping a solid floor under it as nervous investors wanted to put their funds in high yielding currencies. However, reports of a poll indicating that the ruling Conservative Party trails Labour in popularity by 15 percentage points was helping cap the market's enthusiasm for the pound. UK reserves data showing an underlying \$80 million rise in January after a \$338 million rise in December had no impact on the pound.

Precious metals

Precious metals prices eased in the first part of the week on news of a US proposal that the International Monetary Fund to sell off a small amount of gold to help make up the part of the arrears but firmed later on as gold prices were underpinned by news the South African government had lifted its ban on the African National Congress. However, the rise was cautious as the market tried to assess the longer-term implications of the news.

Gold bullion prices opened the week at \$418.25/75 and closed lower at \$417/41.75, recording a loss of \$1.50 over the previous week's closing at \$418.50/41.9.

Silver bullion prices opened the week at \$5.23/5.25 and closed higher at \$5.28/5.30, recording a gain of 5 cents over the previous week's closing at \$5.23/5.25.

Platinum prices opened the week at \$520/521 and closed lower at \$510/511, recording a loss of \$4 over the previous week's closing at \$514/515.

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Turkey warned Call to cut inflation

ANKARA, Feb 4, (Reuters): Turkish business will suffer a heart attack unless the country reduces its spiralling inflation, according to a World Bank investment affiliate.

Reynaldo Ortiz, Istanbul-based representative of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), said in an interview in the daily Milliyet today.

"If low lira depreciation and high inflation remains, it will mean a heart attack for business."

"Then you will be in trouble... what seems to cause no major harm today will make your lira useless in the long run," he said.

The lira depreciated about 26 per cent against the dollar last year compared with 68.8 per cent in 1988.

The State Institute of Statistics announced today that consumer price inflation slowed to 60 per cent in the 12 months to end-January after December's 68.8 per cent and November's 69.4 per cent.

"We came to Turkey because it was cheap. Now an office in Istanbul costs almost the same as one in New York," said a senior Istanbul-based foreign banker who asked not to be named.

"Turkey has to solve its inflation problem because if it's not cheap, it has nothing else to sell," he added.

Ortiz told Milliyet the World Bank was watching what Turkey was doing to reduce inflation.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Ru) Feb 3

P. Close O. Close

Alm Chem 326 325 320

Alm Nils 326 325 320

Art Fab 326 325 320

Ashtek Lay 86 85 87

Asia Paint 217.50 217.50 220

Atlas Cop 39.50 39.50 40.00

Auto Corp 30 47.50

Nat Index 382.02 380.88

Bajaj Auto 392.50 391.25 390

Bar Rayon 716.25 716.25 711.25

Blow Plast 70 70 70

Bom Dye 198 199.50 194

BK Bond 96 94 96

Ban Wad 82 80 85

Cambare 31.25 31.25 31.25

Cen Eka 31.25 31.25 31.25

Cen Spg 252.50 250 250

Colgate 185 183.75 183.75

Congr Gr 14 14 15

DCM 31.25 31.25 31

Deep Fert 61.25 60 61

Dunlop 81 80.50 80.50

El Hotels 81 80.50 80.50

Escorts 81 80.50 80.50

BSE Index 135 135 130

Esar Sps 105.50 104.50 105

Food Sps 48.75 48 47.50

Gar Poly 42.75 42.50 43

Glenida 104.50 103.50 102

GNFC 38 37.50

Grasim 111.50 110.50 108.75

GE Sps 46.25 46 46

GSFC 157.50 160 157.50

Gul 81 79 79.50

Gul Heavy 15 14 15

Hero Honda 17 16 17

Hind Ciba 110 110 108

Hind Lever 147.50 147.50 148.75

Hind Cocs 26.25 26 25.25

Hindlaco 232.50 230 235

Hoodco 1750 1750 183.75

Ingersoll 225 202.50 205

ITC 53 52 52

Ind Org 50.50 50 52

Ind Rayon 66.50 66 67

Indray 208.75 211.25 206.25

JK Syn 56 55.50 56

Kin Engg 153 151.50 152.25

Kir Comm 225 222.50 227.50

KSB Pumps 192.50 192.50 195

L & T 70 70 68.50

Lipton 88 89 87.50

Mic Rasse 165 158.75 162.50

Mid Con 112 112 110

Mahindra 82.50 80 80

Mas Share 17.25 12 17.75

Mico 830 860 850

Milkfood 225 222.50 227.50

Modi 53 50 52.50

Sesa Gm 78 78 76

Shaw Wall 54 51 53.50

Shree Cam 59 59 59

Shri Fib 104 102 104

SKF 1330 1330 1330

Spec 53.50 53 51.50

St Mills 64 63 61.50

Tata Oil 122.50 124 124

Tata Chem 445 447.50 435

Tata Pwr 113.50 113.50 113

Thapp Agro 106.50 103.50 105.75

Tico 145 143.75 145

Vam Org 21.25 20 21.25

Vardh 670 650 670

Wimco 23.50 23.25 22.25

Zenith 56 55 56

Zuan Agro 58 56 58

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

EXCHANGE RATES

Indian rupee	0.01250
Sri Lanka rupee	0.07360
Pakistani rupee	0.13710
Bangladesh taka	0.08950
US dollar	291.400
Pound sterling	492.550
US dollar	0.79310
Deutsche mark	1.73550
Japanese yen	0.002012

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20,000 houses will be sold this year to home buyers

English invading France again

PARIS, Feb 4, (Reuters): The English are invading France again, swarming in thousands to settle in a country where they regularly wage bitter wars until a 20th century "entente cordiale" converted them to friendlier rivalries.

France's National Federation of Real Estate Agents predicts that 20,000 houses in France will be sold this year to home buyers from across the narrow channel of sea that separates the two countries.

And by 1992, the annual figure could reach 100,000.

"More than 600 years after the 100 years' war, when our English neighbours lost their French lands, Her Majesty's subjects are once again invading en masse the sunny shores of sweet France," said the French newspaper, L'Auvergnat.

Although the French and the English love to insult each other, the English holiday in their millions in France

delighted by the contrasting way of life.

The house-buying phenomenon was at first limited to northern France, where the rolling hills of Normandy and Brittany's craggy coastline reminded some early British arrivals of home.

Now, with British property prices high, and the prospect of a tunnel linking the two countries by 1993, many English are venturing deeper into France to regions that were under English rule 800 years ago.

In a survey of real estate agents across France, all said the English were out-buying all other nationalities.

The British consul in the southwestern city of Bordeaux said 10,000 compatriots had bought homes in the region.

Englishman James Patinson settled in France in 1976, buying a house with profits from the sale of an apartment in London. He now sells houses to Britons, helping them through the

unfamiliar legalities of buying in France.

"Selling property in England makes it easy to buy somewhere in southern France, restore it and even keep some capital to start a business," Patinson told Reuters.

The English buying spree mostly involves the middle classes looking for a house costing between 100,000 and 300,000 francs (\$17,500 and \$2,500).

Real estate agents, lawyers and village mayors are dusting off their English dictionaries to cope with the rush of new residents from "Perfidious Albion".

Gustave Legrand, mayor of the tiny Normandy village of Manneville-La-Raoul, has seen nine English families buy rustic cottages in his village of 150 people in the past three years.

"In Normandy the English are always welcome. The people here have fond memories of the English and the

Americans, when they landed to drive out the Nazis in 1944," he said.

National Federation of Real Estate Agents (Fnaim) spokesman Eric Darleguy said sales had rocketed in the last three years.

English people bought 2,000 properties in France in 1987, 4,000 in 1988, and 12,000 in 1989. The Fnaim predicts they will buy at least 20,000 this year.

They usually buy houses in small villages already suffering from the migration of young people into larger cities.

"All the houses that the English have bought, many of them old and valuable ones, would have fallen down because our villages are emptying. In fact they are restoring life and houses are always rebuilt in the original style," said Legrand.

But there are signs of dissent. In the Western region of Brittany,

Graffiti has appeared on walls, in French and English, saying "Britanny is not for sale."

This is believed to be the work of a small group of separatists, who have resorted in the past to minor bomb attacks on government offices.

Their threat is not taken seriously in France, but could cause a few shivers in England. Holiday homes bought by English people in Wales have been fire-bombed by Welsh nationalists.

In the quaint Normandy port of Honfleur, Mayor Marcel Liabestre has used his civic powers to stop the English buying up the best town centre buildings.

Liabestre's assistant Yves Conde said the mayor acted "to put a stop to property speculation and avoid the town centre being emptied of its permanent population."

In southwest France, farmers say the

English invasion is pushing them out of property markets. "They're pushing farm prices up and we cannot match their bids at auctions," said Robert Laubatis, a farmer in the Bordeaux region.

Southwest France, especially the famous wine regions around Bordeaux and the Dordogne valley, has become the favourite spot for English people looking to settle permanently.

English society has even been imported.

Host bars and cafes have installed the British "pub" game of darts, the snail town of Eymet has started a cricket club, and two English-language newspapers, the News and the Dordogne Telegraph, are published.

The Bordeaux region has special ties with England. It became an English duchy when Eleanor of Aquitaine married Henry II in 1152, returning to French rule in the next century.

Jordan's austerity budget approved

Parliament endorses spending cuts

AMMAN, Feb 4, (Reuters): Jordan's new parliament has endorsed the 1990 budget slashing real spending by about a fifth in line with an IMF-approved economic reform plan.

Bankers said the International Monetary Fund should be happy with Saturday's 52-16 vote by the 80-seat lower house chosen in November in the first general election for two decades.

Leftists opposed the budget but most Muslim Brotherhood deputies, who form the biggest single bloc, approved it.

Effectively they voted for the IMF plan, one banker said.

An IMF team is due in Amman soon to monitor progress in the five-year plan launched in April after Jordan halted payments on its \$8 billion foreign debt.

After 38 hours of debate, the house snipped 11.7 million dinars (\$17.7 million) off the proposed total of 1.105 billion dinars (\$1.7 billion).

Budgeted spending was already down by about 20 per cent in real terms from last year after taking into account inflation and the depreciation of the dinar, both around 26 per cent.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran told parliament there could be no public sector wage increase without undermining the fight to reduce the budget deficit, inflation and foreign borrowing.

He said there were no magic solutions to the problems of high prices and unemployment, but said 80,000 jobs Jordanians could replace some of an estimated 175,000 foreign work-

ers. Responding to deputies worried about the impact of austerity on the poor, Badran pledged to keep food subsidies, expected to cost up to 72 million dinars (\$109 million) this year.

Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh has said he expects the economy to expand by two per cent in 1990 after little more than zero growth in 1989 and a two per cent contraction in 1988.

Fortified by IMF and World Bank assistance, Jordan has been rescheduling part of its debts to foreign governments and commercial banks, but debt service remains a heavy burden.

Jaradneh told parliament the ratio of debt service to export earnings was expected to reach 27 per cent this year, compared to

22 per cent last year and 39 per cent in 1988.

The budget projects a deficit of about 350 million dinars (\$530 million) without taking foreign assistance into account, compared to 372 million (\$560 million) in 1989.

To help bridge the gap, Jordan anticipates receipts of at least \$360 million in Arab aid, a traditional mainstay of the treasury, compared to \$516 million last year.

But Jaradneh told parliament 35 per cent of any Arab aid would go to an off-budget military fund for arms purchases.

A government source said King Hussein and Badran were planning to tour Arab donor states in the Gulf soon to try to secure firm financial commitments for the coming year.

UAE to boost refining capacity New gas field find

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Feb 4, (AP): A new gas field was discovered recently off the island of Abu Dhabi in the Musafah area, an oil industry source said today.

"The gas field is now pumping 50 cubic metres per hour of associated gas, a good indicator for crude oil and natural gas findings," said the source, who spoke on condition he not be named.

Authorities in Abu Dhabi, largest oil producer of the seven emirates federated in the United Arab Emirates, were considering directing the associated gas in the Musafah field to the nearby Umm Al Nar Refinery, the source said.

He estimated 12-18 months for the new find to be brought on stream, including the laying of necessary pipelines.

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. did not comment on the new find, but had earlier announced a plan to expand both of Abu Dhabi's refineries, Umm Al Nar and Ruwais.

The source said the aim was to boost overall refining capacity by around 70,000 barrels a day or 30 per cent of the current capacity of 180,000 barrels a day. He said that multinational companies have already made bids for the Umm Al Nar expansion.

The Umm Al Nar refinery was set up in 1976 with a capacity of 150,000 barrels a day before it was upgraded to 60,000 barrels a day in 1984.

Al Ruwais, which produces 120,000 barrels a day, was commissioned in 1981. A hydrocracker plant

was set up at Ruwais to upgrade around 27,000 barrels a day of low value products taken from the two refineries.

The source did not rule out a connection between the refinery expansion plan and the new gas find in Musafah.

He also said that there were other oil finds in various areas of Abu Dhabi and its islands, but the authorities would disclose them only after their commercial value was proven.

The UAE's proven reserves are estimated at 200 billion barrels of oil, putting the UAE in contention for second place world-wide after Saudi Arabia, the source said.

He also estimated the UAE to be the fifth largest country in the world in terms of gas reserves, officially set in January 1988 at some 5.6 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

The country also has a record 95 per cent figure for utilisation of its associated gas.

UAE oil is exported to some 50 countries, with the most prominent being Japan, Singapore, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh in Asia, Kenya in Africa, Portugal, France, Italy and Holland in Europe, and the United States.

The UAE has refused to accept a low oil production quota from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its leaders are committed to a production rate of 2 million barrels daily for the current six-month period ending June 30.

Dockworkers renew strike

Ports paralysed

ATHENS, Greece, Feb 4, (AP): Greece's 2,800 dockworkers went on strike today for better benefits and pay, paralysing ports.

The Union of Port employees of Greece says it expects the strike to last at least a week.

The dockworkers are demanding an extra \$50 a day for handling hazardous loads, as well as improved pension and health insurance plans.

They have conducted repeated strikes and slowdowns in recent weeks, with the result that some freighters have been redirected to other European ports while others languish at Greek docks.

In an interview with the Greek Daily newspaper Ethnos, Spiros Marinakis, president of the International Shipping Union, a group representing firms in Athens, warned that the strikes are causing serious long-term damage to Greek shipping.

Bus drivers, electrical workers, television and bank employees have called slowdowns for this week.

West Germany's cost of living rises

Dollar loses ground against mark, sterling

THE dollar lost ground against the Deutschmark and sterling but was little changed against the yen and eased slightly following the release of the non-farm payroll data indicating a larger increase than forecast, according to NBK weekly market.

Stocks and bonds rallied strongly midweek preventing the equity market from recording its worst January performance since 1960 although there was some profit-taking later in the week.

The increase in personal consumption was largely due to higher expenditure on heating due to the colder weather conditions whilst the unexpectedly high rise in leading indicators had little impact.

The dollar ended the week at DM1.684 and £1.61.

The Purchasing Managers' Report indicated the economy declined sharply in January for the ninth consecutive month and that this was the sharpest fall since January 1982. However, Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, stated that the economic slowdown was only thought to be a temporary phase and the likelihood of recession was less than 50 per cent. He also felt that inflation had stabilised but was still at too high a level.

Despite better than expected non-farm and leading indicator data and with very little new economic news due out in the near future the current outlook remains negative and the dollar is expected to weaken amid speculation of a possible easing in the Federal Reserve's monetary policy.

Trending ranges are forecast to be as follows: DM1.63-1.68 and yen 142.5-145.5.

Sterling is currently regarded as a reasonably safe currency and has continued to look attractive maintaining its upward trend supported by interest rate differentials.

A pessimistic CBI survey indicated that the UK could be close to recession with stagnating growth

in manufacturing output, business confidence at its lowest since October 1980 and investment spending likely to be reduced. The only optimistic aspect in their report was the increase in exports implying that companies are seeking orders abroad.

There were no significant variations in the final money supply figures although the inflow measure (M0) is still outside the 1 to 5 per cent target range. The underlying trend in official reserves was viewed as indicating minimal intervention by the Bank of England in the currency markets during the month.

The threat of higher interest rates appear to have receded although equally there is little likelihood of a reduction in rates in the foreseeable future.

The pound is expected to continue to look attractive underpinned by the current relatively high interest rates.

With very little new economic data due for release next week the market will be lacking any fresh factors to influence the UK currency and, therefore, trading ranges for the coming week are expected to be as follows: DM2.79-2.84 and £1.67-1.70.

The German Deutschmark was partially undermined by the political uncertainty in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union this week although the German unit is currently very firm against the weak Japanese yen.

West Germany's cost of living rose as expected a preliminary 0.5 per cent in January from December and 2.6 per cent from a year earlier although high pay awards still remain an obvious inflationary threat.

Separately, industrial output rose a seasonally adjusted, provisional, 2.4 per cent in December from November after it was revised downward to a 0.3 per cent rise in November from the previous

month. The Japanese yen remains weak and vulnerable ahead of next month's elections. After ruling for more than three decades the Liberal Democratic Party is expected to have difficulty in retaining control.

There were a number of economic data releases this week which included the following:

Current account narrowed to \$3

It's finally safe to portray Russians

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Director John Frankenheimer, thanks to glasnost, feels it is finally safe for film-makers to portray Russians, even Soviet soldiers, as humans.

Frankenheimer, who directed such films as "Birdman of Alcatraz," "Seven Days in May" and "Black Sunday," recently completed "The Fourth War" about an American-Soviet confrontation.

The film treats both sides with an even hand.

"There's no way I could have made this picture 10 years ago, taking the point of view we take," Frankenheimer said.

"The leading Russian character is a fairly sympathetic individual. We'd have had trouble getting financing for the project and we could not have expected to do well at the box office unless the Russians were made to look less than

human or the Americans less than sympathetic.

"I got away with it to a limited extent in 'The Manchurian Candidate,' but not to the degree that we do with 'The Fourth War,' he said.

The screenplay is based on a Russian colonel who is no worse nor better than his American counterpart in a peace-threatening incident on the West German and Czechoslovakian border.

"Today... it is no longer a black and white world where the citizens of one country are virtuous and the citizens of another are all bad," Frankenheimer said.

"Glasnost has changed the whole perception of Russians and communists in the United States. If I'd made 'The Fourth War' 20 years ago I'd have been labelled some kind of pinko or something.

"In fact this picture might have been labelled communist propaganda in the old days. Yet one of the most admired men in this country today is a communist and his name is Mikhail Gorbachev. He's probably more admired here than in his own country.

"A climate of fairness has been established for writers and directors. We are free to show people as individuals, not clichés.

"On the other hand, it would have been easier to make this picture financially a decade ago because it is so hard to raise money these days for non-mainstream movies.

"I feel very lucky to have been able to make this film. I think it is going to be controversial. It's not in Hollywood's commercial traditions, aimed strictly for bottom-line grosses.

"The story deals with what happens to trained military commanders when war becomes obsolete. What do you do with these soldiers when the major powers dismantle their bases and cut back armed forces?

"Once these highly trained warriors become anachronistic, what do you do with them?

"The two colonels in the story are highly decorated heroes, veterans of wars they didn't win, who find themselves face-to-face. What do they do? They manage to make their own war.

"I know for a fact men like this exist because I talked to them at an air force base before I started making the film — fighter pilots itching to shoot down a Russian plane at a time when such a thing is out of the question.

"There are officers in both countries

trained to despise each other, to hate everything the other country stands for.

"They were trained to kill in the arena of war. Like cockfighting, once the animal is trained and blooded in the heat of battle, it is difficult to change the orientation in a time of peace or glasnost.

"Everything they've ever believed in has been discredited, but they remain a necessary part of the country's military preparedness, to be used in another time and place.

"The changing tides of politics in Eastern Europe make the timing for 'The Fourth War' fantastic. The reality of what is happening over there focuses international attention on that part of the world.

"The time frame of our picture is 1988, just before these major political upheavals take place but it was already a time of change.

Cruise's tour guide

Oliver Stone likes to take young

OLIVER STONE is perched behind a charcoal and chrome Italian desk in his high-tech office in Venice, Calif. In jeans, striped suspenders, a black-and-red-checked flannel shirt, a baseball cap adorned with an American eagle and sneakers, he looks like an overgrown kid trying to figure out what mischief he can get into next.

He doesn't look like Mephistopheles, but appearances can be deceiving. Like Eve with the apple, Stone's specialty is loss of innocence. Stone likes to take young, unformed, all-American boys, lead them through some fiery furnace of life and emerge with just-formed men who have acquired some pieces of much-needed knowledge and left innocence behind forever.

He did it with Charlie Sheen in "Platoon." And now he's done it again with Tom Cruise in "Born on the Fourth of July." The film is one of the most powerful anti-war movies to come along in decades. It is turning into a major box-office hit and is a surefire bet for the frontlines of this year's Oscar battle.

It's the story of Ron Kovic, a Yankee Doodle boy from Massapequa, Long Island, who goes off to war full of pride and patriotism and comes home with his body paralyzed from the midchest down and his soul crushed by the indifference of the country he went away to fight for.

Ask Stone if life for Tom Terrific — Hollywood's golden boy, after "Top Gun," "The Color of Money" and "Rain Man" — can ever be the same again and you get an answer that reveals more about the director than about the actor he's describing.

"I have the feeling," says Stone, with a tone dangerously close to anger, "that Tom will no longer be quite the youth he was. By making this film, your cross a certain barrier emotionally. Something happens to your psyche. You age in a certain way. Tom would, I'm sure, disagree with me — actors like to think they can play anything — but it will be harder for him to go back to being carefree, to play 'Risky Business' again. I think he has passed into early middle age.

It's as if Stone said to Cruise, "You think you're grown up and sophisticated and you understand life because you've worked with Newman and Hoffman and you're big stuff at the box office. Come with me and I'll show you grown up. Grown up is when you go off to war as a young kid, you're a kid, and you come home confined to a wheelchair with your bodily functions in a plastic bag. That's grown up."

To some extent Stone's pictures tell his own loss of innocence. He volunteered to go to Vietnam because he didn't think the poor kids should be the only ones fighting to keep the world safe from communism. "I had a bit of a death wish," Stone admits. He returned home wounded to find a changed America that cared nothing about Vietnam and everything about making a buck off the burgeoning war economy.

But in the tale of Kovic — the clean Marine turned anti-war activist — Stone found the perfect character into whom he could "submerge" to use his word — the story of his own postwar angst. Stone even found the perfect mouthpiece in Cruise, but that wasn't so easy.

Swigging constantly from a bottle of water and crutching over the tape recorder like a spider ready to pounce on a fly, he explains his dilemma.

"With someone 26 or 27 you're going to have a problem finding emotional depth. Al Pacino was going to do it in an earlier incarnation and he was around 38 at the time. Tom was really the only one who could do it. I met with Sean Penn, but he didn't strike me as being an all-American boy from the suburbs. He doesn't have that aura. He's more of a bad boy. Ron was very much a good boy."

So was Cruise. From the same working-class, Catholic background as Kovic, Cruise was the only male in a household for four women — his mother and three sisters — because his parents divorced when he was just a kid. Stone thought Cruise could understand the emotional turmoil that ensued when the seemingly solid Kovic family, unable to deal with their returning son's anger and hostility toward his country, fell apart. They had no concept of the reality of war.

"Ron's family completely fractured when he came back and I thought Tom could convey that because of the split in his own family."

When Kovic hears his mother mouthing the same patriotic platitudes about God and country that sent him off to war in the first place, he explodes in what is the film's most painful sequence. In a drunken rage he berates his mother, taunting her with his sexual impotence and his useless body. It is agonizing and, in a horrible way, blackly funny.

"I saw it with an audience," Stone recalls, "and they laughed when he yells about his anatomy and she scolds him, 'Don't say penis in this house.' My editors said, 'We'll have to cut that.' I told them 'Bullshit. That's real life.' We laugh at the weirdest moments. The critics are dead wrong when they say I'm over-melodramatic. Life is melodramatic. Life is insane."

For a matinee ideal such as Cruise, putting his soul in the care of Stone was risky business indeed. Scenes in the enema room of a Veterans Administration hospital — a rotting sewer of a place — and others of Cruise wearing a balding shoulder-length wig emptying his bladder bag, play havoc with his glamour-boy image. If Cruise was worried, he didn't show it and, according to Stone, the studio worried enough for everyone.

"Universal was very concerned that Tom looked bad. Would the girls who worship him — the Cruisettes — come to see their idol looking gross? To me it would have been more obscene to have Tom lying in the hospital looking great. That would have been a total lie."

Cruise, says Stone, dedicated himself to the story and the role so much that when Stone told him there was a drug that would paralyze him for 48 hours to let him feel what life is like for Kovic, Cruise was willing to take it.

"But there was an infinitesimal chance that he could have been paralyzed for life and the insurance company killed it. 'It's to Cruise's credit,'" admits Stone, "that he took most of them."

"In hindsight, people will say he didn't really take any risks at all, but believe me, when we started it was risky. Cruise played around with his image. He made himself ugly. That hospital wig is a fright wig if I ever saw one."

Of course none of it compared with the risk Kovic and Stone took when they went off to war. And Stone is proud of how he turned it that experience around. While it has done a lot for Cruise, the real impact is what "Fourth of July" has done for Kovic.

"He's so happy now. He always dreamed of being a hero. Here is a whole movie made about his life with one of America's leading stars. It's a dream come true for the kid from Massapequa. The irony, of course, is that he thought that dream would be according to his concept of heroism. Now it has undergone this tragic change and he realizes where true heroism lies. What a circle to travel in your life," says Stone.

It's that kind of irony, that kind of world-weary self-knowledge that came to both Kovic and the director at early ages that Stone delights in instilling into young movie stars.

Forget fish oil for lowering your cholesterol level

Exploring health

By Jeffrey A. Fisher MD

IT'S time once again to clear up the confusion once and for all. That is, of course, until it becomes necessary to repeat it.

Almost five years ago, the article appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine that catapulted fish oil to national prominence. A study conducted at the University of Oregon examined the effects of large doses (equivalent of about 40 capsules per day) of salmon oil on elevated cholesterol and triglycerides. The results were quite impressive. Those with extremely high triglycerides (more than 1000) achieved an almost 65% reduction, those with less extreme elevations also had a positive result, but less dramatic. Cholesterol levels were also significantly lowered, although not as much as were triglycerides.

What had been thought of as a nostrum became mainstream therapy for many. Pharmaceutical companies jumped on the fish oil bandwagon. Consumers were hooked on the idea that a presumably harmless substance could lower their cholesterol. Squibb even called their product Pro-Chol, to remind people what they were supposed to take it for. Timing seemed right, as the National Cholesterol Education Programme was just beginning to trumpet the message that all Americans needed to know their cholesterol levels, and lower them if necessary. National sales were predicted to hit \$200 million.

But then the bubble burst. At first only a trickle of studies appeared, then several. It seemed that, in order for fish oil to lower cholesterol, one must take a very large dose, one not really feasible for long-term compliance, have a special type of elevated cholesterol profile, or both. If these conditions didn't exist, not only fish oil not lower cholesterol, and it raised undesirable LDL cholesterol to boot. Fish oil was still remarkably effective against triglycerides, but these are not nearly as important or as well understood as cholesterol in the causation of coronary artery disease.

When word of this came out, the fish oil industry was essentially dead in the water. Consumers became confused, and a confused consumer is not a good customer. Pro-Chol was the first to go belly up, then Parke-Davis's Promega, the most widely promoted of the fish oil products. Estimates are that Parke-Davis lost \$10-20 million promoting Promega.

This is all sad, not because these rich companies can't afford to lose a few bucks, but because fish oil probably does help prevent heart disease. Only it's not by lowering cholesterol.

Many other factors are involved in the development of atherosclerosis than high cholesterol, which is not the cause of coronary artery disease; just a contributing factor. We are still learning, but the sticking together of blood platelets, small cells that are involved in the clotting process, is an early factor in atherosclerosis that is definitely affected by fish oil. Also, there are other white blood cells, called monocytes, which stick to the lining of arteries, and contribute to arteriosclerosis. This process is also retarded by fish oil.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR. ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

Chest X-ray little help

QUESTION: During a recent screening I had a tuberculous skin test that showed positive. After a more thorough examination, during which I was found to be in pretty good health, my doctor decided to put me on regular medication, but then decided that a chest X-ray was unnecessary. This doesn't make a lot of sense to me. Does it to you?

ANSWER: It took a bit of a reflection and some reading, but I think I can make a case for your doctor's position, and explain a few things to you while I'm at it. To make it all come out right, I am going to assume that you're under the age of 35, which seems likely from the rest of your letter.

The purpose of the skin test screening for tuberculosis is to find people who might obtain some benefit from a course of therapy with an anti-tuberculous medication that will prevent the disease from progressing beyond its first stages, or in fact, from ever developing at all. Screening tests merely reveal that the patient has been exposed to the disease and has generated antibodies to the bacteria.

The type of therapy recommended by your physician is called "prophylactic therapy" and is used to prevent the bacteria from ever gaining a foothold in your body. Tuberculosis develops slowly, and wiping out the bacteria with proper medications prevents damage to the lungs and other organs. Prophylactic therapy with isoniazid is very effective and presents few risks for the young patient.

Since you fit the picture of a young patient, in apparent good health, with a positive screening test, the decision to prescribe prophylactic therapy to you was already made, and the results of a chest X-ray probably would not alter that conclusion. While the

American Thoracic Society does recommend a chest X-ray in cases such as yours, recent investigations have shown that X-rays rarely show findings that reveal active disease, and may be of little help in caring for the patient.

In these days when medical costs are constantly under review, your physician may be practicing in a system where costs are kept low by avoiding tests that are of questionable value. For sure, your therapy is correct; the question of a chest X-ray is one that may be debated.

ACROSS MY DESK: I found interesting and informative reading in the "Letters" section of the Jan. 12, 1990 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. A number of physicians commented on the material in an article authored by Dr. Joseph J. Cottrell of the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Gary Kohn, of United Airlines, relating the experience of the enhanced medical kit now carried on most airlines.

Some of the letters noted that the passengers flying aboard the plane during a medical emergency were a valuable source of potent and useful medications not contained in the emergency kit. In one situation, nitroglycerin tablets and Valium provided by other passengers, as well as oxygen, maintained a heart attack patient in stable condition until landing.

Dr. Richard Cummins, of the University of Washington, another researcher into medical emergencies during air travel, noted that passengers are an excellent resource for medications in that they carry not only tranquilizers and sleep-inducing pills, but "can also quickly provide nitroglycerine, aerosolized bronchodilators, antiepileptics, insulin, diuretics and analgesics." A veritable medical arsenal available just for the asking!

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Beginning to bloom again Lesley-Anne: Happy at last

BRITISH actress Lesley-Anne Down is waxing poetic about — of all things — love, marriage and happiness.

"I've been through some absolutely appalling times," she says. "I've really learned what Jekyll and Hyde means, what good and evil are and what pleasure and agony are all about. Now at last I have found all the good stuff — with Donnie."

Donnie is 36-year-old Don E. Fauntleroy, a lean, handsome, moustached Californian with a blond ponytail, who is the English star's third husband. He is pouring white wine at lunch in the couple's warm and spacious red-brick, picture-perfect Colonial home in Malibu. The room looks out over an idyllic setting: pool, tennis court, gazebo, the flowers are blooming in the dazzling winter sunshine.

It all seems appropriate. For a 35, Down — survivor of one of the nastiest divorce and child-custody battles in Hollywood history — is beginning to bloom again. She has emerged from the nightmarish domestic battle psychologically bruised, but happier than she's ever been in her entire life.

And on the career front too, everything is looking up.

On Jan. 19 she will become a regular on "Dallas," the British soap, who enchanted millions around the world as the sexy and ever-so-proper Lady Georgina in the popular British series "Upstairs, Downstairs" which aired on PBS in the '70s — has made a dramatic transition: From posh Belgravia's Eaton Place to the Southfork Ranch. She shows up on "Dallas" as Stefanie Rogers, a high-powered PR lady who takes control of Cliff Barnes' (Ken Kercheval) life when he decides to run for political office. Not surprisingly, she catches the lustful eye of old J.R.

"Doing 'Dallas' wasn't something I even thought about," says the green-eyed Down looking cool and beautiful in a white cotton sweater, white slacks and white socks, her dark hair piled on top of her head. "For an English actress from 'Upstairs, Downstairs' to do something as American as 'Dallas' is beyond thought. But they made me an offer I couldn't refuse," she says. "They gave me the opportunity to go into a show that is a living legend. Even though it's on its last year or two (the series is now in its 12th season) it isn't going to be something that's forgotten. It's something important in a pop media way. They wanted a strong interesting female character — not just a pretty face. Otherwise they wouldn't have had to payasmuch," she says, laughing.

"I'm going to be working a couple of days a week and that spells happiness. And happiness is something that has been denied me for years. I think I deserve it."

Indeed, in her mid-30s, the actress from the north of London who was once voted "Most Beautiful Teen-ager" in Britain, has picked up the threads of a career that was once booming. She started out as a 10-year-old child model and quickly landed roles in films opposite Sean Connery, Laurence Olivier, Peter



Sellers, Burt Reynolds, Harrison Ford and Anthony Hopkins. In 1980 while shooting "Sphinx," she married Argentine assistant film director Henri Gabriel, but quickly divorced him.

For Down, the '80s has been a bittersweet decade. There was the child-custody battle with her second husband, film director William Friedkin, father of her 7-year-old son Jack. Today she shares joint custody with Friedkin after surviving enough mudslinging to have buried a weaker woman.

It began in 1985 when she told Friedkin, whose movie credits include "The French Connection," "The Exorcist" and "To Live and Die in L.A.," that she wanted a divorce. The filmmaker, currently wed to Los Angeles TV anchorwoman Kelly Lange after a brief marriage to French actress Jeanne Moreau, was labelled a "tyrannical, jealous, possessive browbeater" by Down's lawyer Marvin Mit-

chelson, who alleged in the original divorce papers that Friedkin had threatened to kill Down if she filed for divorce.

Friedkin sought sole custody of their son, alleging his wife had had a string of lovers, had used drugs and had abused alcohol. She countered that he had neglected their son, leaving him in the custody of a drug pusher and that due to his carelessness, their son had nearly drowned in a swimming-pool accident.

Now for the first time in many years Down is sitting in the tranquility of her home, opposite a husband she loves; she is talking about the ordeal she has survived and her life today.

"When it's finally over it leaves you paranoid," she says, nibbling at a fruit salad. "During the worst of it we had reason to be paranoid; we were being followed by detectives all the time."

She was, at the time, living with cameraman Fauntleroy, whom she met while shooting the

Japanese tourists learn to relax on European holidays

LONDON, (Reuters): The traditional European view of a Japanese tourist is of a camera-clicking tour party member busily rushing round three capital cities in a week — if it's Tuesday, this must be London.

But a combination of the mighty yen, better language skills and a deeper understanding of the West is bringing an end to that perception.

"Japanese tourists, particularly the younger generation, have become more relaxed about travelling abroad," says Naoki Katsube, general manager at the Japan Travel Bureau in London.

It is now some 25 years since Japan removed restrictions on sightseeing tours abroad, allowing free foreign travel. Because of the cost, however, most Japanese could expect to make only one

journey abroad in a lifetime. The language barrier and culture gap also meant that they preferred to travel in groups.

Now with higher incomes, the strong yen, more free time and a better knowledge of the West and its languages, Japanese tourists are making more foreign trips and feel easier about travelling as individuals or couples.

With the increase in individual travel, visits to a single country are also becoming more popular.

"A new trend emerging this winter was that the popularity of a single-destination trip to Europe suddenly increased, rather than visiting several European countries in a short period on a package tour," Katsube said.

"Japanese tourists may be beginning

to seek quality in travel, rather than quantity."

Brook Townsley, an English teacher who has many Japanese among his students, has seen a similar change: "What I notice now about Japanese tourists is that there are more individuals and they are younger."

The Japanese government is encouraging foreign travel both to foster international understanding and to help reduce the country's huge current account surplus.

The number of Japanese tourists going abroad rose from one million in 1985 — the year when the yen began to appreciate rapidly — to 5.5 million in 1986 and 8.43 million in 1988. It is expected to pass 10 million this year.

"The Japanese market has huge poten-

tial," said Barbara Walsh, an official at the British tourist authority.

The BTA partly funded by the British government, estimates that the number of Japanese tourists to Britain reached more than 50,000 in 1989 compared with 200,000 in 1986.

In 1988 Japanese tourists spent £200 million (\$335 million) in Britain. In 1990 the figure is expected to reach £375 million (\$628.5 million).

Britain is still low on a list of Japanese destinations outside Asia. The United States, Australia, Italy and France are among countries ahead of it.

But the BTA is making a special bid to draw Japanese women, emphasising haute couture, fashionable shopping and the country's royal heritage and ancient traditions.

It is also stressing the calm of Britain's countryside compared to Japan's crowded cities.

Teruhiko Hasegawa, director of the London arm of Mitsukoshi, a major Japanese department store, says that for him this is a major attraction.

"I have already driven 25,000 miles (40,000 km) since I came here two years ago, enjoying the fresh air and green fields," Hasegawa said.

"I found living in Britain more relaxed and more human. I have begun to realise that there is no happiness in simply working hard without any other interest, although lots of Japanese may think so."

Although the cash-rich Japanese are generally welcomed by the world's tourist industry, there have been problems,

SNIPPETS

Docs in six hospitals under BIR surveillance

DOCTORS in at least six hospitals in Metro Manila are under close surveillance by Bureau of Internal Revenue agents for tax evasion, BIR Commissioner Jose U. Ong said.

Ong identified the hospitals as the Makati Medical Center, Capitol Medical Center, UST Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Chinese General Hospital and Metropolitan Hospital.

Ong said the deployment of BIR agents in these hospitals is aimed at finding out who are the doctors who have the doctors who have been delinquent in the payment of their taxes.

BIR spokesman Gerry Flores said the surveillance by revenue agents did not involve contact with the doctors.

Flores said examiners have been instructed to run after professionals, including doctors and lawyers, to help meet this year's tax goal of P104 billion.

Many doctors make huge profits in the practice of their profession but evade payment of taxes, Flores said.

Earlier, Ong said they had assessed a well known dermatologist and found him to have tax deficiencies amounting to P40 million.

Makati Medical Center director Raul Roco said some doctors do not issue receipts to their clients to avoid payment of taxes.

Two slain in Cavite

A GARDENER died after he was struck with a hoe by a man with whom he had a long-standing feud in Trece Martine City and another man was shot dead in Alfonso, Cavite.

Garry Samiano, 24, of Barangay San Agustin, Trece, Martinez died on the spot from deep wound in the head.

Police chief Capt. Severino Lubigan identified Samiano's attacker as one Marcial Marcelino, 24, also of Barangay San Agustin. Marcelino surrendered later to Lubigan.

Police said that the incident happened at about 7 pm near the house of the victim where he met Marcelino.

Police also said that the two were cursing each other when Marcelino picked a garden hoe and hit Samiano with it in the head.

In Alfonso town, an unidentified man was found dead with gunshot wounds in the head and body.

The victim, police said who was wearing denim pants, about 25 to 30-years old and five-foot tall was found near a creek in Barangay Lukshin, Itaba, Alfonso.

Three men kill jockey

A JOCKEY was stabbed and shot dead by three men believed to be hired killers in front of their house in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

Crispino Hernandez, known in racing circles as Jockey Hernandez, 28, of 2637 Pista St., Sta. Cruz died from multiple gunshot and stab wounds.

One of the suspects was later shot and wounded by responding policemen. He was identified as Bernardo Araman, 18, of 1063 Disinuave de Uno St., Solis, Tondo, Manila. He is being treated at the Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital.

Police said Hernandez was standing in front of their house when three men suddenly appeared from behind and shot him repeatedly at close range.

Witnesses said when Hernandez slumped bloodied in the ground, one of the suspects stabbed him twice with a dagger.

While the suspects were escaping towards Consuelo St., policemen led by Sgt. Nelson Tagle arrived and chased upon Araman.

Witnesses said Tagle fired at Araman hitting him in the right thigh. Hernandez' wife, Patricia, 25, told Pesta's Journal that she did not know any reason why her husband was killed.

She said her husband went the following morning to the Western Police District Headquarters on United Nations Ave. and reported the incident.

Police said Hernandez and a certain Jun Bata, a bookie operator, had been at odds for several years over money.

Pig roaster slain in QC

A PIG roaster was hacked and stabbed to death by a fellow roaster after a drinking session at La Loma Quezon City.

Isaías Aldaue, 35, of 329 Blumentritt Ext., Barangay Paang Bundok, La Loma, died on arrival at the Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital from stab wounds in the head, chest and stomach.

The suspect, Agustín Banez, surrendered to police Lt. Fluto Casayuran immediately after the incident.

Police said the incident happened at about 7 pm in front of the Ping-Pong Lechon house at La Loma where the victim and Banez were both employed.

Witnesses told investigators that Aldaue and Banez were on their way to a cockfight from a drinking session when the former asked who will pay the entrance fee.

Banez answered he had no money and added there was no need for them to enter the cockpit.

Pupil locked up in a room

AN 11-YEAR-OLD grade five pupil accused of stealing a jungle bolo complained to the Calocan-Malabon-Navotas-Valenzuela (Camanava) press office claiming that he was dragged out of his classroom by a barangay tanod, hit by his landlady-accuser and was locked up in a room for 30 minutes.

Alex Fernandez, of 29 Sta. Quiteria St., Calocan City, told newsmen that barangay tanod Mariano Sarmiento forcibly took him out of his classroom last Jan 10. He added that the incident caused a commotion at the Sta. Quiteria Elementary School.

The victim claimed he was slapped by his landlady, Aida Cruz, forcing him to admit that he stole her jungle bolo. He said that with the help of Sarmiento, he was detained for 30 minutes in a room.

Fernandez said he later admitted that he found the jungle bolo in front of Cruz's gate. He denied stealing it.

Fernandez' mother, Lirwayway, 32, said: "Walang sinungmay kay karapatang saktan ang anak ko dahil wala silang mali bay na ebidensya sa kanilang ipinangatang."

Housewife plunges to death

A HOUSEWIFE was killed when she accidentally touched a live electrical wire that caused her to fall from the third floor terrace of her residence in Quezon City.

Amelia Zapa, 35, of 51-A Banahaw St., Bgy. San Martin de Porres, Cubao, broke her right leg and head. She also suffered third degree burns on her body and arms.

She died before reaching the Quirino Labour Hospital.

Witnesses said the accident happened at about 2:30 pm while Zapa was collecting laundry at the terrace.

They said Mrs. Zapa apparently reached out for dried clothes hanging on a line when she accidentally touched a Meralco wire which was only a meter from the terrace.

The sudden charge from the power line caused Zapa to fall, witnesses said.

Fires hit QC hospital warehouse

TWO fires broke out at separate places in Quezon City destroying machines and hospital equipment.

Arson investigators said the first fire razed a warehouse at 31 Catalos St., Bgy. Pinagrawan, Cubao at about 2:30 am.

Three huge machines said to be heavy-duty driers were destroyed in the fire which was placed under control after 15 minutes.

Damage was estimated at P100,000.

The second fire broke out at the storeroom on the third floor of the National Children's Hospital at E. Rodriguez Blvd., Bgy. Damayang-Lagi.

Three wheelchairs and several mattresses were burned. The fire was put out after 20 minutes.

Rebel chieftain slain in Masbate

LEGASPI CITY (PNA): A communist guerrilla leader was slain in an encounter with government troops in a village in Cawayan, Masbate Tuesday, according to the military.

A military report reaching Camp Bagong Ibalon in this city identified the slain rebel as Urbano Bender alias "Ka Banong," a commander of a New People's Army (NPA) band operating in Cawayan.

The report said members of the 266th PC Company on a routine patrol encountered the group of Bender in Barangay Aldaw.

It said Bender was hit during the first volley of gunfire and died instantly. Seeing their leader already dead, his comrades withdrew, leaving his body.

No one was reported injured on the government side.

After the storm: a real state of emergency

ARE we really in a state of national emergency? "What we have," says lone opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, "is the aftermath of the emergency that visited the nation between Dec 1 and 6, 1989. The after-effects of that event do not warrant the use of extraordinary powers because there are enough laws that the President can use to address them. The exercise of what have been denominated as emergency powers implies that there is turmoil in the nation that is either caused by natural calamity or by the acts of men such as war or revolution. But these after-effects can be addressed by the normal processes of government."

This, of course, is one view of things. A lot of people will associate "emergency" with the state of calamity that is normally declared, not while a particularly fierce typhoon is raging, but after it has blown over and there is the debris to clean up, the hoarders of vital commodities to deal with, and homes, establishments, and lives to rebuild. Only, this time we were not hit by a typhoon but by the sixth and so far the most violent coup d'état attempted against the Aquino administration. And according to Rep. Raul Roco of the second district of Camarines Sur, one of the principal authors of the Emergency Powers Law and its most articulate defender in the House of Representatives, the teeth of the old anti-hoarding and anti-profiteering laws were neither sharp nor strong enough. There is a real need for the Emergency Powers Law.

Under the old set-up, if you were caught hoarding or profiteering, your store would be shut down, but you could open a new one across the street. So under the Emergency Powers Law, says the Bicolano solon, the anti-hoarding and anti-profiteering rules and regulations issued by the President were made to carry the clout of a five-year to 10-year prison term for violators. Coverage of those rules and regulations are not limited to food items but include school supplies.

"The President," explains Congressman Roco, "can now more effectively interfere with the supply and demand factors." Now why should she interfere with demand and supply? To frustrate the hoarders and the profiteers, of course. "She can confiscate, she can buy or import basic commodities, she can give incentives, and she can call upon

volunteer organizations to help monitor the situation." Why volunteer organizations? As a consequence of the "Edsa revolution" explains Rep. Roco, we have a constitution that recognizes and institutionalizes people's groupings. And what are the incentives for? For the manufacture and repair of public transport facilities, for instance, buses and vessels, so there won't be too many people stranded on the way home from work, and so that those floating coffins could be converted into something seaworthy. She can also control working hours in business and industry so that those blackouts, if inevitable, will follow a schedule that has some reason if not rhyme. She can order government agencies to save 10 percent of their budgets, from their representation and discretionary funds, so she would have the money to import, say corn if that is in shortage or is being hoarded. No, assures Rep. Roco, salaries of government operations will not be affected.

"But we have practically delegated legislative powers to the President, the very reason for the existence of Congress," argues Sen Enrile. "There is also in one provision a direct violation of the Bill of Rights which guarantees the right of people to be secure in their persons, papers and effects and no warrants of arrest, search and seizure may be issued except upon probable cause to be determined by a judge after hearing witnesses presented by a complainant." Not even the President of the Philippines can issue such warrants, Enrile stresses, because she is not a judge. He expresses the fear that a fine distinction will be made between the search of homes and search of establishments with the latter being allowed.

"That is not in the law," says Rep. Roco. "The military wanted that to make the retrieval of firearms unaccounted for since the Dec 1 coup attempt a bit easier, but they didn't get it. That's all they wanted and they didn't get it. That means the military will have to get a proper warrant from a judge every time they make a search."

On the claim that legislative powers have been delegated to the President, Roco says: "That is not correct. What has been delegated is rule-making power which is different from legislative power. For example, section 49 of the Agrarian Reform Law says the President and the



Rep. Raul Roco of Camarines Sur. Bill of Rights intact in the Emergency Powers law.

Secretary of Agrarian reform can issue rules and regulations. Implementing rules and regulations are normally delegated to the executive. These, however, have the effect of law, but they are not laws, just as a Supreme Court decision could have the effect of law but it is not law.

"The constitution requires, however, that when Congress delegates the power to make rules and regulations, guidelines must be issued." In effect, Congress tells the President, you may issue rules and regulations specifically to stop hoarding and profiteering — that's the guideline. The rules and regulations should be aimed at stopping hoarding and profiteering and nothing else in that case.

If further assurance is still needed, there is the provision in the law (section 7) which states that the law cannot in any way impair the Bill of Rights and other constitutional guarantees. There is the constitutional guarantee, for instance, that workers can strike.

So how can there be a threat to the freedom of media in the Emergency Powers Law? "The law," Enrile points out, "empowers the President to temporarily take over public utilities and other business affected with public interest, and this will surely cover radio and television stations which, although franchise holders, are impressed with another character: they are outlets for the exercise of the

freedom of expression. If the government can place these facilities under its control, then it can determine who can use them and who cannot. That would be prior censorship." You will notice that Sen Enrile says nothing about newspapers which, clearly, are protected by the Bill of Rights.

If the government is going to use the Emergency Powers Law for purposes of prior restraint, says Rep. Roco, it won't work. "For what is the role of media that is of public interest?" he says. "That they serve the people's right to information. Therefore to take control of the media in the name of public interest would be contradictory. Because the public interest requires that the media keep informing the people."

As to the storm that made the Emergency Powers Law necessary, the real size and shape of it is yet to be brought to light by the Presidential Commission tasked to investigate the events of Dec 1 to Dec 6. For a while even this fact-finding commission, created by the President and headed by Comelc Chairman (on leave) Hilario Davide, was legally embattled.

"I questioned her power and right to create such a commission," says Enrile, "because there is no statutory or legal authorization given to her in existing laws or the constitution to create an office. For such an office can only be created by

Congress and appropriate money for that purpose. The President had that power in a special provision in the old administrative code. But the new administrative code crafted during the time of Aquino failed to incorporate that authorization. In effect, they (the administration) removed that power, and then used it when it was no longer there."

Rep. Roco agrees that there is something legally questionable about the administrative order creating what is now popularly called the Davide commission. The President was in effect issuing rules and regulations without guidelines from the legislature. And she couldn't give powers to the Davide commission which she herself did not have under the administrative code. So Congress had to come to the rescue not only by giving the commission the additional powers it was seeking (such as the power to look into the bank accounts of suspected coup leaders) but also in effect ratify the existence of the commission. It could have been better, of course, if the Davide commission were originally a creation of Congress. "Let's not call it Presidential," says Enrile with an amused grin.

In denying that the country is in a state of emergency, Enrile is by no means saying that its problems are over. "There is still a problem inside the military organization," he says, "and Aquino as Commander-in-Chief

must address it hand-in-hand with her alter ego, the Secretary of National Defense and her Chief of Staff." He repeats what he told this writer early last year that he would never serve in a junta. "You remember," he says, "it has been my consistent position that I would not be the first person to install a military government in the Philippines, if that is the intention of these men (the rebel soldiers), although I doubt it that is their intention." Enrile himself has problems if you believe charges being raised by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) that he had a part in that attempted coup. Enrile has denied it.

As far as Congressman Roco can observe, he says, the young officers are highly motivated. "I think the government should take advantage of that. There is no country that developed vigorously without a high esprit de corps among its military officers. You must have an officer corps that is apolitical, and our young officers are still apolitical. They have not yet eaten of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. The older officers have tasted the apple of politics — the sooner we retire them the better."

His Camarines Sur constituents also have another perception worth noting: There are, they say, more basic problems of development that must be addressed. "We are putting together an agropolitan district in Camarines Sur," he says, "integrating farming with small farming. I just signed an agreement with a foundation for training of our people in co-operativism." They have also a bamboo replanting effort, and they are looking forward to the improvement of their roads network so that the "bata" (bicycle) could move conveniently from Isarog to Naga, otherwise the roads will be a nightmare. "These," says Rep. Roco, "should preoccupy all of us, instead of this political polarization so rampant in Metro Manila. Let us not take sides against each other, but see what we can make together with our present level of resources — bicycles, for example. They are cheaper, they save on foreign exchange, they don't cause pollution, and they make for a better exercised, healthier nation."

And a lot of bicycles are a lot better sight than an APC on a wrong lane on Magsaysay Blvd. ■

Anito turns 20 New king of tennis

IN 1970, Wyden King helped his father, Angelo, build a motorist's hotel on Camela street in Pasay with innovative services and facilities to ensure customer satisfaction. Gradually, father and son built more branches in Pasay, in Malate, and in Sta. Mesa. Today, 20 years later, Wyden has expanded the best chain of drive-in hotels into a diversified conglomerate now known as the Anito Group of Companies.

"We are now into building construction, mass housing development, large scale laundry operations, and building administration," enthused Wyden. He is referring to his satellite companies: Kaizen Construction, experts in serialized construction similar to that of South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan; Kalikasan Homes, a mass housing project with 200 units in Pulang Lupa Village, Mutinlupa, ready for occupancy by the first quarter of 1990; Philippine Fabricare Inc., engaged in garment finishing like Lois jeans, Paddocks and Levi's; Kalikasan Laundry, one of the most modern cleaners in Southeast Asia, serving the Philippine General Hospital, Chinese General Hospital, Silahis Hotel, Puerto Azul, even competitor Victoria Court, and many others. The Group also manages King's Court I, and soon, King's Court II, two very prestigious office buildings on Pasong Tamo in Makati.

The Anito Group of Companies celebrates its 20th foundation anniversary this month. Says Nelson L. Napud, Anito's vice president and general manager: "We have every reason to celebrate. We are on the verge of becoming a world class company, hopefully like San Miguel and Ayala Corporation. Our dream of improving the quality of life of our people is now a reality. And we continue to provide top quality facilities and amenities at very reasonable prices."

There is a pervasive belief that foreign multinational companies give Filipino employees the best salaries and fringe benefits. Wrong. The compensation scheme for Anito employees is the best in the industry. Napud continues: "When we say our 500 employees are our best asset, we mean it. That's why we invest substantial time and



Nelson Napud, Anito's general manager, holds periodic brainstorming sessions with the executive committee members Jebe R. Gayanelo, Remy R. Santos, Edmundo G. Las and Erlinda L. Uy.

money in training them to reach their highest potential. More than one-third of our total office area is for training. Decision making is not the prerogative of managers here. Even the lower-rank employees make important decisions.

To devote more time for human resources development, the company has set up the Anito Quality Training Institute in Naic, Cavite. It is fully furnished with conference and training facilities. Throughout the year there is always an employee training programme going on here. In addition, selected employees are required to attend specialized training under outside consultants.

Around the Anito offices, employees work effectively and efficiently with a minimum of supervision. The corporate value of OSA, or One Step Ahead, is very much evident. Employee discipline is clearly visible, like a giant billboard. Every one participates in housekeeping, and even the vice presidents are responsible for keeping their executive toilets spotless clean.

With well-motivated employees in place, the Group is concentrating on further project diversifications and product improvements. Jebe Gayanelo, Anito's assistant vice-president for corporate marketing, remarks: "We are now pursuing a zero defect ideal for all our product offerings. Our system of Total Quality Management ensures that each room and service is carefully studied so that

correct processes are established to guarantee the highest level of satisfaction for all of our customers."

A large segment of Anito's customers are married couples seeking privacy or the comfort and luxuries not normally available in their households, like a warm hydromassage — the jacuzzi. Since housewives are known to be sticklers for cleanliness and sanitation, Anito follows strict systems of housekeeping and sanitation to ensure that they offer the cleanest rooms in town, cleaner than any five star hotel or competitor.

To be pragmatic about it, Anito's drive-in hotels are also ideal for businessmen from the provinces who come to Manila for a day or two, to transact business or just follow up some papers. Rather than stay at the five star hotels which cost almost P1,500 a day, it is more convenient and much cheaper to check in at Anito. Even the Philippine Airlines patronizes Anito for international transit passengers.

Unknown to many, Anito is also engaged in good catering for corporate functions and private parties. Over the years the company has developed a wide array of food recipes which are comparable, if not more tasty and delectable, than those found in specialty restaurants and five star hotels. Many swear that Anito's fried chicken is superior to those offered by leading chicken chains. And their succulent crispy pata is just out of this world.

This win Payumo accomplished after recovering from a 2-4 third set deficit. He captured the final four games of the match with service holds on games seven and nine and breaking his opponent's serve in the eighth and final game, the tenth where Alcaraz hung tough to save two match points.

Tonito, a stocky 5-foot-eight 148-pound right-hander, shattered the only decent in the last game when Alcaraz doublefaulted and then finished off his opponent with a sizzling forehand down the line passing shot that left the latter flatfooted as he rushed the net for what would be an all-important volley winner that could have forged the second deuce and kept his hopes alive at reversing the outcome.

The eldest son of Batuan Congressman Feliciano Payumo, Tonito's interest in the game of tennis was first aroused one fine day in 1980 when as a boy of eight, he tagged along as his parents went to watch a few balls at the Manila Polo Club courts.

'Tonito' Payumo

years later at the age of thirteen. Between 8 and 13, he indulged himself in golf and soccer. Tonito was once a fourth placer in a Junior Golf (Jungolf) tournament and had a stint as goalkeeper for the Philippine team that won the 1985 Sweden Gothia Football Cup crown in Finland.

A product of grade school at Southridge in Alabang, Payumo has three younger sisters by father Feliciano and mother Daisy Sison Payumo who is a cousin of the famed Vice President "Bongbong" Sison, a Philippine Davis Cup team member in the early '80s. Anito is 16 years old, 11 is 13 and Eileen 8. All are enrolled at Woodrose also in Alabang.

Since age thirteen, three coaching pros have handled his playing career. They are Macky Dominguez, Willie Hernandez and Butch Bacani, now playing team captain of the 1988 Davis Cup squad.

Bacani has this to say about the boy: "I first saw him at MPC. Ang galing pumalo and he has good footwork. Everybody was beating him until recently." Of which, Tonito reacts with a shy, sheepish grin.

On his coach, he comments: "He is a good coach and I'm sad at the same time. And he's dedicated to his work."

This Puma-sponsored right-hander is basically an aggressive serve and volley player who jumps over opportunity to attack the net. He deems his serve and groundstrokes on either side to be "the main weapons in his arsenal."

He also has plans for turning pro. "But only if I do well in any of the tournaments I join abroad."

In 1988, Tonito won the 16-and-under title of the Stopenridge National Tournament at San Diego, California, beating the state's number three player in the second round and eventually a younger named Jimmy Brown in the final, 6-4, 6-2.

He has so far won one international tourney.



Tonito Payumo shows off his fine form during one of his daily grinds on the court.

ANITO LITO

Gretchen Barretto burning bright

GRETCHEN BARRETTO, this year's box-office queen, is no ordinary pretty face in local film-dom. Last year the svelte young actress with the Castilian eyes became the Fantasy Girl of movie-going Filipino males. She was billed as the "Sex Trip Queen" (whatever that means) and "Sex Goddess of Philippine Movies." She works hard to live up to that stature.

Does she mind what other people say?

After once being sidelined for two years doing nothing except co-hosting a weekly TV show and occasional TV guesting, she doesn't. Her determination to succeed in her chosen career puts her ahead of other kittens in her circle and augurs well for her fifth movie with Seiko Films, "Ang Bukas ay Akin," where she was nominated for the Best Actress Award in last month's Metro Manila Film Festival.

Looking forward to her own bright future, Gretchen twirls the gold trinkets on her right hand and mentions, "That's a gift." "She is not afraid of having had to earn it. 'When you say 'work,' I go for it talaga," she says.

The fifth in the brood of seven (two boys and five girls), Gretchen entered the movies at 14 when she was still a high school freshman at the Colegio de San Agustin in Makati. Her parents initially didn't approve of the idea. However, they knew that ever since she was 10, Gretchen already wanted to become like Vilma Santos, her idol. "I kept telling them that I wanted to become an actress or a singer someday," she recalls. "I watched Tagalog movies a lot with my parents or with my brothers and sisters. 'Gradually, she won them over to her side."

Finally in 1984, she signed a contract with Regal Films and did 15 movies. "I did teeny bop roles like Carmine Villaroel today," she says. "My roles were halfway between supporting ones and being an extra."

The reason perhaps why Mother Lily didn't give her more mature roles like those given to Snooky Serna and Maricel Soriano was that she was very young then.

When her contract with Regal expired it wasn't renewed. For the next two years her fledgling movie career went into limbo.

"Wala nang nangyayari sa career ko," she recalls. Then Robbie Tan of Seiko Films learned about her predicament and took her in with a plan to revive her dormant career. Since, in a few months she was turning 19, she was given an ample role in "Ang Lihim ng Golden Buddha" opposite Jesotai Alarcon. After shedding her vestal virgin image in that movie where she did torrid kissing scenes with Alarcon she did "paglalaban ko" opposite Rudy Fernandez. That's where she was tagged as the "Sex Trip Queen" by movie scribes. Despite those juicy roles, however, Gretchen never consents to excesses. "No nudity. All I do is a milder Vilma (Santos)," confesses the actress. In real life she is more like basketball superstar Joey Loyzaga, her fiance for the past three years: a homebody. "I don't go to the disco, I don't stay out late, I don't smoke or drink and I don't take drugs," she says.

No she doesn't regret quitting school (she finished third year high school) since her movie career has been "very compensating."

Does Joey meddle in her acting career?

A deep sigh. She says "Kasi hindi naman dapat, eh. This (acting career) is work and we've got to be professional about it." She ripostes: "I don't meddle with his career on the hardcourt. I told Joey what I want in my life, and perhaps he loves me enough to understand. You know how it is in showbiz—intuitions, etc. But I don't want just to stay in the house and do nothing and not know where my life is going," she says, caught in a modern girl's dilemma.

Marriage is still out of her mind at the moment. "Maybe when my career is already very stable and I have won at least three major acting awards then perhaps I'll think about settling down," she says. "But even if I win the awards this year or the year after next, I still won't get married. I want to become financially stable first, that's very important," she emphasizes.

With her earnings at Seiko she recently bought a five bedroom house at Blue Ridge in Quezon City. She has also sank some money into "a lot of jewellery."

"Mahilig ako d'yan at saka sa kotse at mga babay. Hindi ako mahilig humabas pero magastos ang aking mga hilig," she trills.

There is no other way for this Piscean lady than to become an actress. No other alternative. She remembers what film director Laurice Guillen always tells her: "It's easier to succeed in something that you really like to do."

When she heard that her movie "Ang Bukas ay Akin" was only number four in box-office receipts during the last film festival, she felt very despondent. However, Kris Aquino, her friend from way back at the Colegio de San Agustin, called up to congratulate her and told her the movie was actually the second top grosser in the filmfest. That raised her spirits. Despite not garnering the top acting award, she says she was still very happy because she felt a lot of



Gretchen is now in the league of Sharon, Vilma, Lorna and Dina

people came to her support. Especially Kris.

Oskee Salazar, PR man of Seiko Films says, "Right now Gretchen is in the league of Sharon Cuneta, Vilma Santos, Lorna Tolentino and Dina Bonnevie. Actually, last year was a contest between Sharon and Gretchen," he says. "Sharon had four movies while Gretchen had five. I believe when it came to box office receipts, neck-to-neck sila ni Sharon."

Gretchen is allowed to do one film a year outside Seiko. Learning this, her former studio, Regal, immediately put up an offer, proving that the Cebu-born actress had indeed become "bankable." The Viva Films offered P1 million for her to do a movie with them. "I can't believe it," she says. "I wish I could do all of them." Make more money.

Her vital statistics are not for the public. "Ay huwaga na, huwaga na nating i-reveal yan," she protests. "My height na lang ang itanong mo." She's five-foot-five. Her peaches and cream complexion is maintained by see-

ing a dermatologist regularly. "I can't afford to have pimples at this stage of my career," she says.

A physical fitness centre in Greenhills used to trim that lovely figure but her tight shooting schedules have prevented her from continuing with the workouts. Instead, she keeps away from soft drinks and too much food. "Mostly I eat noodle soups for breakfast, lunch and supper — when I'm shooting," she says. She's partial, however, to big ripe mangoes and even green ones.

Robbie Tan, whose film company is one of the top three major studios in the Philippines, says "I'm giving her good projects handled by topnotch directors like Lino Brocka who directed her and Gary Valenciano in "Kung Tapos na ang Kailanman," and Laurice Guillen who directed "Ang Bukas ay Akin."

"She's determined to succeed and that's one of the assets I look for among movie stars," says the starmaker whose financial wagon is hitched happily to this bright one.

From the provinces

MANILA: A priest, who was reportedly restrained by the Catholic Church from testifying in a rebellion case against opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, apologised yesterday to Jaime Cardinal Sin, archbishop of Manila, for dragging him into the controversy.

Fr. Danilo Dagsaan, OSA, was reported to have celebrated mass at Enrile's house in Dasmarinas Village, Makati, last Dec 1, the start of the failed coup attempt.

His statement reads: "I am sorry that the good name of His Eminence Jaime Cardinal Sin has been dragged into this controversy."

"May I state categorically that the decision not to testify in the case of Senator Juan Ponce Enrile is of my own volition."

"I cannot testify in the case on account of previous Church discipline and as a priest, I cannot go against the dictate of my conscience."

"I beg for the kind understanding of His Eminence of our Catholic faithful."

MANILA: Leaders of the House of Representatives sought the immediate recall and review, if not repeal, of a memorandum circular of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) which imposes a 10 per cent tax on sales of real properties.

They said that by "hastily" issuing Revenue Memorandum Circular No. 80-89, on Dec 26, 1989, the BIR is not only "killing the middle class which were trying to evolve" but, in effect, driving investors out of the real estate business.

At present, all real estate buyers are required to pay the government capital gains tax of five per cent of the selling price of the property.

Under the BIR circular, all sales of real properties, which are classified as ordinary assets, after Dec 31, 1989 will be subject to a creditable withholding tax equivalent to 10 per cent of the gross sales if the seller is a corporation, and 15 per cent if the seller is an individual, estate, trust or trust fund or pension fund.

For the purpose of the circular signed by BIR Commissioner Jose U. Ong, the date of notarisation appearing on the deed of sale will be considered the date when the contract of sale was perfected. However, sales evidenced by documents notarised before November, 1989 will be deemed consummated on the date it is filed with the BIR.

The circular provides that no BIR official is supposed to issue a certificate authorising registration (CAR) of a real property covered by a sales contract unless the confirmation receipt or official receipt evidencing payment of the creditable withholding tax on the transaction is presented to him.

del Norte and Sur, Surog del Norte and Sur, Davao del Norte and Sur, Lanao del Norte and Sur, Zamboanga del Norte and Sur, and Surigao del Norte and Sur.

IMUS, Cavite: A suspected drug pusher and four suspected drug addicts were arrested by police operatives during a "buy-bust" operation conducted in barangay Anabu II, this town over the weekend.

Maj. Bayani Gallito, Imus police chief, identified the suspected drug users as Nessel de los Reyes, 28, single, Albanel Mayson, 33, married, a tricycle driver, and Romeo Torres, 38, married, all of Talon, Las Pinas, Metro Manila; and Napoleon Martinez, 30, married, mechanic, of Justineville subdivision, Bacoor.

They were nabbed by anti-narcotics operatives in a tricycle driven by Mayson while they were about to leave barangay Anabu. The operatives said they had just bought several grams of metamphetamine hydrochloride commonly known as "shabu" from a certain Dante Zamora of sitio Pasong Santol.

Major Gallito's men immediately conducted a follow-up operation, resulting in the arrest of Zamora.

Seized by the policemen from Zamora were several grams of "shabu" wrapped in aluminium foils and dried marijuana leaves.

CEBU CITY: Cirilo R. Francisco, regional director of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) in Central Visayas, disputed the other day charges filed by Tanod-hayan Special Prosecutor Roger C. Berbano Sr against five BIR officials for alleged violations of Republic Act No. 3019 and Article 236 of the Revised Penal Code.

Francisco, who was reported as among those facing the charges, said that Berbano had never subpoenaed them for preliminary investigation and that they were not given a chance to air their side on the complaint, depriving them of their constitutional rights to due process.

He said that the case arose from a deed of sale dated Sept 4, 1979. The deed was executed by Ignacio Palomo and Carmen Palomo vda. de Buenaventura in favour of the National Power Corp.

He said that Felixberto Buenaventura, a nephew of Ignacio and a son of Carmen, filed a case in 1985 to tax evasion against Ignacio and Carmen for allegedly not having paid the capital gains tax.

Francisco said that on Sept 4, 1979, there was no capital gains tax law yet and it was only on Sept 7 in the same year when the law took effect.

BIR officials conducted a hearing on an administrative case filed against them for allegedly pocketing the tax payments but Felixberto could not produce the capital gains tax return, Francisco said.

He said the case in already closed.

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya: Col Renato Aguda, Nueva Vizcaya PC commander and police superintendent, disputed yesterday charges by Rep. Carlos Padilla that the PC-INP command here is allegedly protecting illegal loggers.

Aguda said the four trucks-loads of logs seized by the PC-INP members recently in the province were actually owned by civilian illegal loggers.

The PC-INP command filed criminal cases Nos 4646, 4647, 4648 and 4649 against Sonny Lucero, Benito Magada, Lito Rango, Agapito Verzosa, Johnny Tana, Dominador Salazar, Arturo Matandang and Romulo Tabawan, owners of the logs, he said.

Aguda said he has also filed administrative charges against two mayors of the province with the provincial government, after which they were suspended for 60 days for their illegal logging activities.

On the accusation by Rep. Padilla about the loss of seized logs, Aguda said the representatives of the Department of Natural Resources here duly receipted the confiscated 1,030 board feet of logs in the PC headquarters.

The DENR's certification indicated that Padilla's accusation against the PC-INP command was meant only to harass it in view of its charges against the two mayors before the Tanod-bayan," he told Bulletin.

A triumph for Filipino designers

By Resly Vergara

For the second consecutive year, Filipino designers in Asia's most glamorous week-long fashion event "Fashion Connection '89" held in Singapore won deafening applause for their collections. Detail upon fine detail, embroidery upon intricate embroidery — nobody could hold a candle to the Finos. Thin-as-a-reed Michelle Laconico, our bet to the Asean Model Search, running away with the title as the first Asean model even came as a fitting denouement to the Filipino's quest for grand recognition.

After all the glamour and the ovations, the question arises, "What gives the Filipino designer?" The bottomline surfaces, something that our counterparts in the region have realized earlier: a designer cannot help but be subject to a far more rigid jury. The market awaits.

The only reality that confronts the designers of today is that he cannot be content with just making garments for the pure pleasure of it. Digna Rosales, President of the Filipino Designers Association, and her counterparts in the region Chris Choo (Malaysia), Sjamsidar Isa (Indonesia), Nagara Samandaraksa (Thailand) and Alan Koh (Singapore) know this only too well. The designer has to make clothes that satisfy an increasingly sophisticated world market if Asean has to be potent fashion force at all.

Clothes are no longer just what people wear. It reflects the level of sophistication attained in their appreciation of style, design, colour, cut and workmanship. Designers, thus, have to be well-informed and sensitive to the fickle demands of the market, short of being atrocious in leading the industry. After all, there's only one thing that distinguishes a truly successful designer: his clothes are what consumers buy. The rest have to be content with being "fulfilled."

Tactless as it may seem, the barest minimum (as succinctly put by one of our leading senior designers) has to be said. We simply cannot go on showing "embroidery" (used as a collective description for the trademark style of Filipino designers) every year. We may not be as blessed as say Manuel Bondad who can manage to run away with the show and be marketable at the same time. "The Philippines, as always, showed a fine collection of embroidery which they are known for..." wrote an international fashion critic. We may not be as lucky to receive this, at most, "cordial" review if we insist on showing something of our young designers in the Asean Young Designers Competition won by the "unexciting" collections (by our standards) of the Singaporeans and Malaysian offers us a lesson too valuable not to be heeded.

But what's in store for Filipino designers? The remarks of a top official of the host SODA organisation of Singapore provides us with an eye-opener. "Fashion Connections" wants to highlight a fashion statement that transcends Asia while proudly from it; that is marketable worldwide while being proudly Asian-made. Indeed, that is what the glitterati of the jet-set like Laetitia Cera of the world-famous MME Figaro in France, Dieter Eckstein of Swarovski Crystals, H.E. Catherine de Monterland of France and Romauldo Bettini of Italy, or Joseph Marmally of the renowned DelaSalles go to Singapore for.



Michelle Laconico: best Asean model

Anejo stays

As long as PBA exists

AS early as middle of last year, talks were plenty that Anejo Rum 65, the most popular team in the PBA, was on the verge of disbandment. Surely such talks pained not only the die-hard Anejo fans, but also the millions of PBA watchers as well. After all, the demise of a great team is enough cause for weeping.

No matter how hard Anejo officials tried to deny speculations of disbandment, soothsayers of doom kept on forcing the issue. So much so, that after the 15th season of the PBA ended, a lot of people sat in suspense grimly waiting for the sad announcement of Anejo's departure from the pro league.

But alas, no message of doom emanated from the Anejo camp. Instead, there was the re-affirmation of Anejo's commitment to maintain a team in the pro league.

"Anejo stays as long as the PBA is there," said team manager Bernabe Navarro, who is also senior vice-president and chief finance officer of La Tondena Distilleries, Inc.

According to Navarro, playing coach Sonny Jaworski has agreed in principle, to sign a fresh two-year contract with the 65ers. In fact, Navarro said Jaworski, who turns 44 on March 8, could play for some five more years.

"There are several reasons why rumours of disbandment persisted," said Navarro. "First, was the perception that people may have had about the financial condition of the company. It was of common knowledge that La Tondena incorporada was going through some financial difficulties before San Miguel Corporation came in August 1987. But since SMC came in and the company was renamed to LTDI, we have been making modest profits. We have recovered our position in the market."

"The second issue was the idea of having two teams in the pro league. While it is true that San Miguel owns 70 per cent of LTDI, it's still a different situation. While people perceived that SMC must maintain only one team, it's still a separate company. On top of that, when SMC bought the company, a team was already in existence."

"The third and last reason for the talks of disbandment was the expansion draft. RFM Group of Companies was very vocal in wanting to get Anejo lock, stock and barrel because that was the only way they could start with a bang. Primarily, they wanted Jaworski because he's the most popular player in the league. And maybe, there were some newspapermen friends of ours who sympathized with RFM and started writing about this. This was all the more fueled by statements from the highest echelons of RFM. But they never made a move, in the sense that they never made an offer. It was just through press release."

But now, all speculations are over. Jaworski is set to go to the United States to personally handpick an important for the Open Conference which starts on February 18. For the first conference, a height ceiling of 6-5 is imposed by the PBA.

"So far, we protected nine players including injured Dondon Ampalayo. We got two players from the amateur draft — Larry Villanil and Fernando Libed. We still have one slot open and we might get back Philip Cesar," said Navarro.

Aside from Jaworski and Ampalayo, others protected by the 65ers were Chito Loyzaga, Dante Gonzalgo, Peter Aguilar, Rey Cuenco, Rudy Distrito, Romulo Mamaril and Leandro Isaac.

"Had this expansion draft not taken place, I would have wanted to keep this team intact. It's because here at Anejo, winning is only secondary. We want to show everybody that we are a team on and off the court," added Navarro.

Actually, Anejo lost the most number of players in the expansion draft conducted last January 4. Pepsi drafted Joey Loyzaga and Harmon Codinera, while Pop Cola took Cayetano Salazar and Fernando Garcia.

"I would like to commend Jaworski for his loyalty. He has developed this sense that has become stronger and stronger. No amount of money could make him transfer to another team. He has been with the company for so long. While he has helped the company alot, he also owes a part of his popularity to LTDI. Every now and then, he says he wants to end his career with LTDI. In fact, he once said that in the event something happens to Anejo which could force the company out of the PBA, he would rather hang up his playing jersey," narrated Navarro.

It was Jaworski's affirmation of staying with the LTDI that assured Anejo's prolonged stint in the PBA. And even after Jaworski's retirement as player, Anejo will still be around. That's for sure.



The Filipino delegation led by Digna Rosales (centre), president of the Filipino Designers Association.

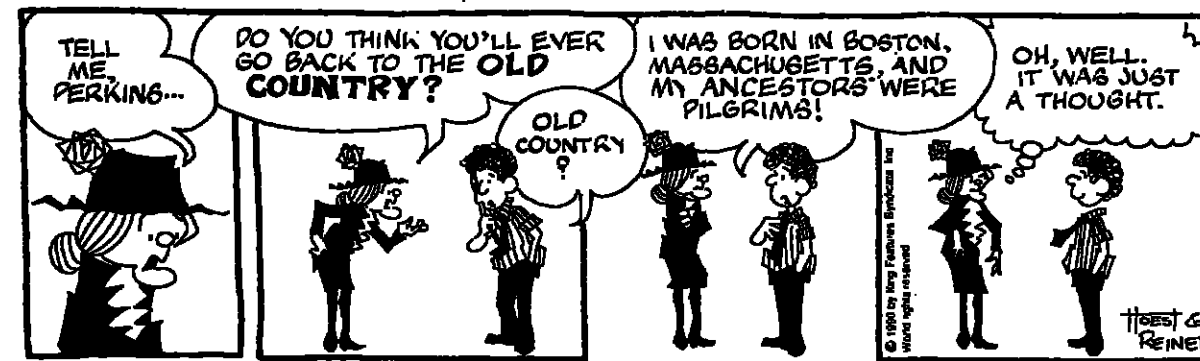
BLONDIE



THE KING'S OFFICIAL FOOD TASTER



AGATHA CRUM



BEETLEBAILEY



THE WIZARD OF ID



ANDY CAPP



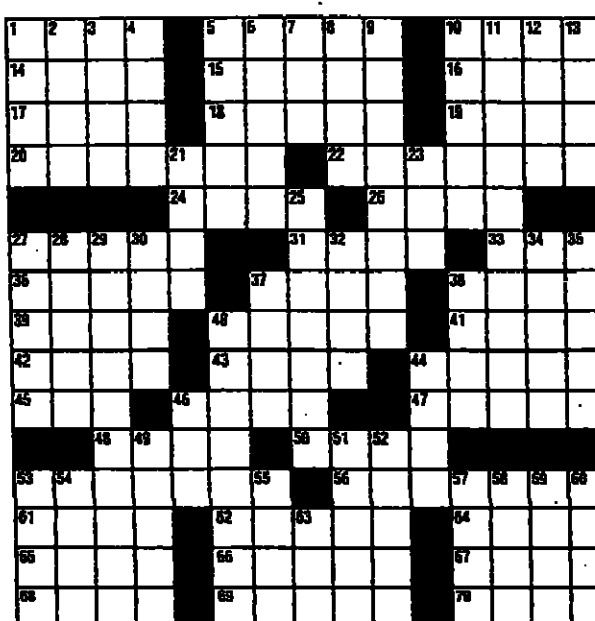
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Baking chamber
5 Accumulate
10 Flower extract
Var.
14 Hill's partner
15 Columbus caravel
16 The latest thing
17 Viva voce
18 Poisonous snake
19 Wrinkle remover
20 Duplicate
22 E.M. Forster's "A — to India"
24 Monster's loch
26 "Where have you —?"
27 Show pleasure
31 Castle's protector
33 Even up
36 Heavy reading
37 European capital
38 Assist
39 Matterhorn's locale
40 Was overly fond, with "on"
41 Paris phone reply
42 Paddock dweller
43 Oh, dear!
44 Was not well
45 Before lunch or dinner
46 — Bator
47 Bright light
48 Without
50 Travel agent's org.
53 Keyboard instrument
61 Employ
62 Skirt features
64 King of comedy
65 Moslem prince
66 Brads and

DOWN
1 Scent
2 Rhine feeder
3 Smite
4 Relate
5 Swifty
6 He had the golden touch
7 Conjunction
8 Staircase section
9 Stately court
10 Greet the day
11 Italian dance
12 Eager
13 French President Coty
21 Feminine endings
23 Place
25 "The Bartered Bride" composer
28 Grinding tooth
29 Sol Hurrok was a memorable one
30 — majesty
32 Raw materials
34 Sicker
35 Lyric poem
37 Gauch's weapon
38 Greet
40 From the sign; in music
44 A great distance
46 Corn or form starter
49 Ward off
51 Cast by John Wellington Wells
52 Container for café
53 Scorch
54 Transport for a VIP
55 Sound from the lion's den
57 Innocent one
58 Whistling swan
59 — avis
60 Snick-a—
63 Creek

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

GASES OBOE RAHS
IRENE DELA ERIA
EGRET ELIS PENT
SOARS IVY UNDE
ENCOURAGEANDAID
POSH SOI
ALTO TATA TASTE
BIRDS OF A FEATHER
ASIDE ENOS EYRE
FAA DOTS
REPENTATLEISURE
EVIL UGH ENTER
PEAL LEES REINA
ORNO INRE RELIT
STOW PTER ARENO

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
PLAY OR DEFEND?

North-South vulnerable. East as a distributional takeout and succeeded only in getting East to double four hearts.

NORTH
♠ AKQ76
♥ 86
♦ K4
♣ QJ105

WEST
♠ J984
♥ Void
♦ 8732
♣ AK742

EAST
♠ 53
♥ AJ74
♦ AJ95
♣ 863

SOUTH
♠ 102
♥ KQ109532
♦ Q106
♣ 9

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 2♥ Pass 2NT
Pass 3♦ 3NT Pass
Pass 4♥ Pass Pass
Dbl. Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
Study this hand from the recent Fall North American Championships, then decide whether you would rather play or defend four hearts doubled.

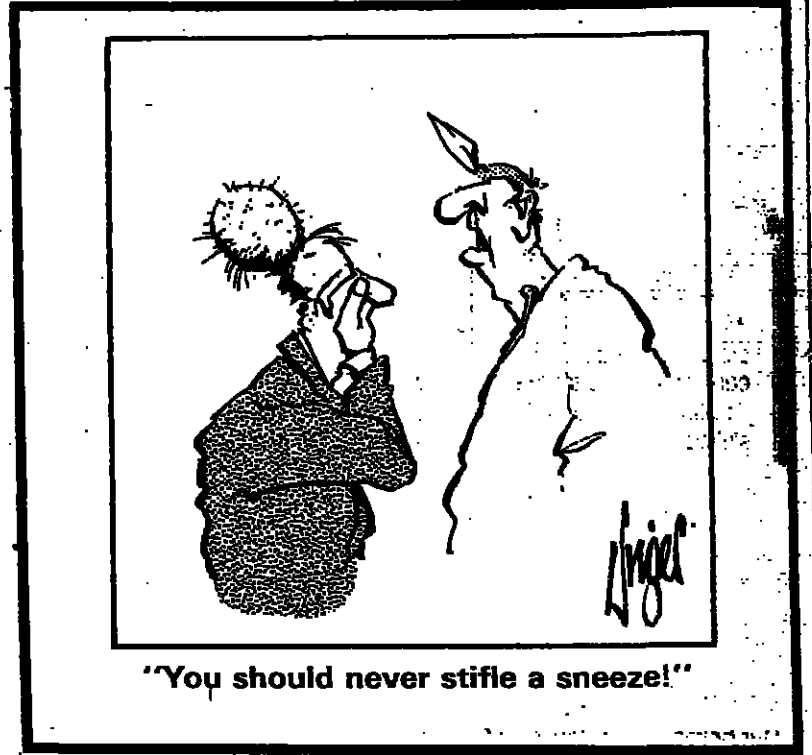
South's opening bid was weak, North's response was forcing and South showed a diamond feature. West's three no trump was intended

as a distributional takeout and succeeded only in getting East to double four hearts.

At the table, West led the king of clubs and shifted to a diamond. Declarer played low from dummy. East inserted the jack and declarer won. Dummy was entered with a spade and the eight of hearts was led. Since the double blueprinted the distribution, declarer ran it. A repeat trump finesse landed the contract.

With East and West cooperating, the defense can prevail. At trick two, West must shift to a spade—jack of spades is best, but a low one is good enough. The table wins and the eight of hearts is led. East rises with the ace and returns another spade, removing the last entry to the table.

If declarer attempts to pick up trumps, East must take care to cover. Declarer will lose only one trump trick, but he will have to concede two diamonds for down one. Alternatively, declarer can try to cash a third spade. East must ruff, again giving up his trump trick in favor of securing a second diamond. Any way you look at it, you should have chosen to defend!



YOUR STARS



Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will have to brave yourself to face a disappointment. Do not be discouraged if something you are learning takes longer than you thought; just persevere. Try not to take everything quite so personally. Be fair.



Cancer
June 21 - July 20
Something you were greatly looking forward to will not now happen. Never mind, you will have better luck next time. Pay a little more attention to your personal appearance. Be sincere.



Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
You will not get your way in all things and you would be foolish to think that you ever could. Attend to essentials before you concern yourself with details. Do your best to avoid complications, and do try to simplify things. Be dependable.



Capricorn
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19
You are more likely to make mistakes so be on the lookout for them. A small infection should not be neglected, nor should it be dwelt too much upon. Make sure you do not break a promise you have made. Be true to your word.



Taurus
April 21 - May 20
Someone upon whom you have been relying is liable to let you down. Never mind, you will still be able to carry on even if less well than you had hoped. You should not act as though you were ten years younger.



Leo
July 21 - Aug. 21
Nothing will go quite the way you would have liked, but you will know how to manage. Accept an invitation but do not stay longer than you are welcome. Try to keep calm even when dealing with an irascible person. Be considerate.



Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22
You will have plenty to do but should not neglect a matter concerning your love life. You should not expect too much but nor should you fail to do what is expected of you. Avoid getting bogged down in detail. Be less obstinate.



Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 19
You should beware of spending more than you can really afford, however much of a 'bargain' you might be tempted to buy. You should think hard and long before deciding to go ahead with what you have in mind. Be resilient.



Gemini
May 21 - June 20
You are liable to omit some important detail and should therefore check that you have not done so. Make sure that you post early, otherwise you may be too late. You will have some good luck but not quite where and how you expected. Be prompt.



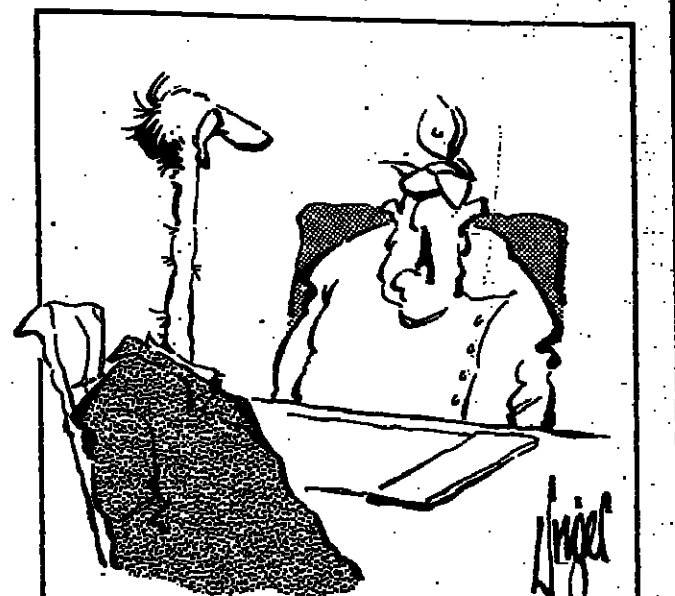
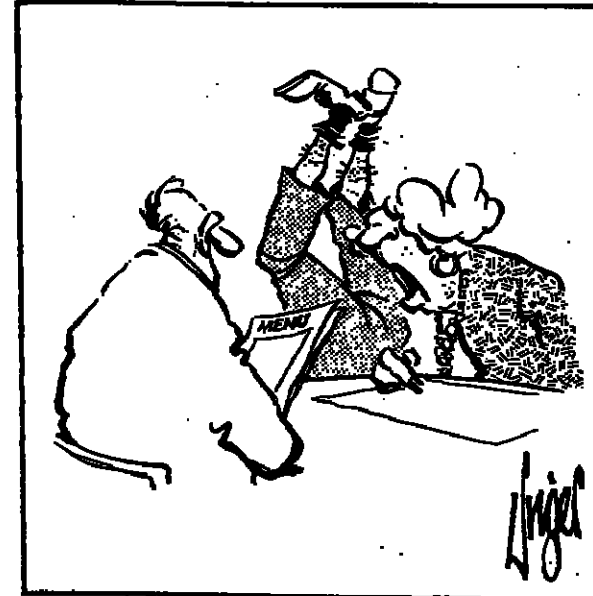
Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
You will find it hard to choose between two alternatives, but choose you must try to ensure you do not fail to come up to expectations. Do not try to do too much all at once. Be resolute.



Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 20
You will not be in the best of moods so do try to stay out of controversial situations. If not all seems to be going well for you do not despair, you are not the only one. Instead just continue to work hard and doing your best. Be moderate.



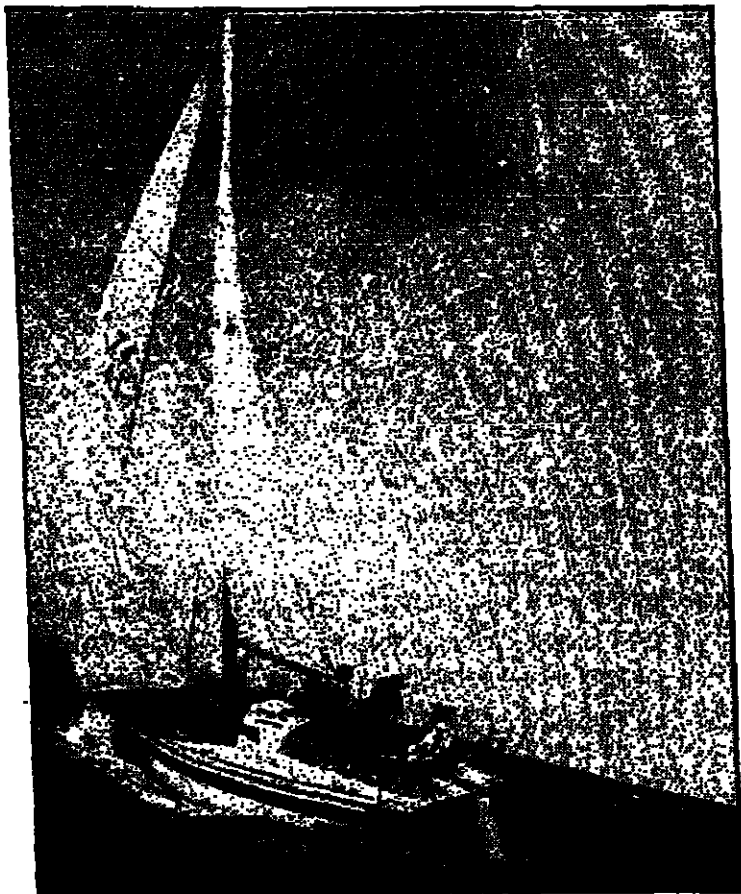
Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20
You will tend to find offense where none was meant and should try not to do so. Your lucky numbers are 17 and 34. Something that has been puzzling you will now become much clearer. Do take better care of your health. Be respectful.



Journalists

Shammal 2nd in Kosa SS3

Red Viking snatches victory



Magic Flute leads the fleet off Ras Salmiya.

THE Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association (KOSA) staged SS3, the third race of its Spring Series, on Friday. Red Viking, in a thrilling run to the finish line, just managed to snatch victory from Shammal in a closely contested race.

The race was scheduled as a mid-distance event with the Race Officer having to make last minute adjustments to the course to allow for the overnight shift in wind direction to the south-east. With the wind gusting up to 25 knots, sail selection for the competing boats, Good Kompany, Magic Flute, Red Viking and Shammal, proved to be somewhat of a challenge.

The start was a tame affair compared to the dramas of the previous week. Good Kompany arrived at the line early and had to bear off to avoid crossing before the start. Shammal made her normal good start to windward of Magic Flute and Red Viking.

The beat down to the first mark proved to be adrenalin pumping stuff as the gusting wind threatened the boats with blow down situations. All managed to survive with Shammal rounding first closely followed by Magic Flute, Red Viking and Good Kompany.

The next leg of the course was

to Masts which could only be reached by rounding Ras Salmiya point. Those members of crew who had managed to sleep through the early part of race were soon shaken awake by the heavy pounding the boats incurred as they encountered the heavy sea at the point.

Shammal lead the way towards Masts but were soon overtaken by Magic Flute who were excelling in the prevailing conditions. The flood tide pushed the fleet north of the mark and it became evident that a tack would be necessary in order to round.

Magic Flute, unaccustomed to leading the fleet, tacked early and managed to turn a 5 minute deficit at the mark. The more experienced skippers on Shammal and Red Viking had their boats arriving at the mark in close proximity to each other. A short tacking duel was eventually won by Shammal who rounded just ahead of Red Viking.

Shammal quickly had their spinnaker set for the dead run back to West Cardinal. Red Viking, after delaying the hoist to make a better sail choice, were soon in hot pursuit.

The run to West Cardinal was accomplished in a lively 40 minutes with Shammal again round-

ing and setting course for the finish line at Bell Bouy just in front of Red Viking. Magic Flute was by now a distant 14 minutes behind in third place.

The fetch to Bell Bouy proved to be the undoing of Shammal. After rounding West Cardinal they had returned the spinnaker for a reach. However, the set of the wind with this sail configuration, meant the course to steer would push them wide of the finish line.

The error was soon realised and the genoa raised in place of the spinnaker but Red Viking, by the simple expedient of steering a more direct course, was able to sneak under the lee of Shammal and eventually finish a minute ahead for a well-deserved victory.

Handicap corrected results of race SS3: 1. Red Viking 2. Shammal 3. Magic.

Progressive scores, for all declared entries, after the first three races of the Spring Series are: Red Viking 4.75 Shammal 5.75 Magic Flute 6.75 Good Kompany 13 Whispering 26 Gambit 33, Damat 33 Lemons 33 Topaz 33 Why Not 33.

The next race in the Spring Series is scheduled for February 15 and is a long distance event. Briefing is at 4 pm at the Shaab Marina.



Pleasure boats surround the yachts (Reuter wire-photo)



Steinlager 2 sails out of Auckland. (Reuter wire-photo)

Yachts head for Uruguay

World race starts again

AUCKLAND, Feb 4 (Reuter): Aucklanders shook off a post Commonwealth Games hang-over today to flock to the city's next international sporting event, the round the world yacht race.

Little more than 12 hours after Britain's Queen Elizabeth closed the Game at Mount Smart Stadium, her husband Prince Philip, aboard the New Zealand warship Waikato, started the yachts on the long haul round Cape Horn.

Tens of thousands of spectators flocked to vantage points around the start line and a huge flotilla took to Auckland harbour to escort the 23 yachts as they sailed off on the fourth leg to Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Celebrations after the 11-day Games, the biggest in their 50-year history, did little to dampen the amateur 'yachting' enthusiasm to see off the professionals working on multi-million dollar budgets.

New Zealanders' enthusiasm for the nine-month race, sponsored by the British brewery Whitebread, is enormous. The New Zealand ketch Steinlager 2 has won every leg so far and fought a neck-and-neck duel with another local ketch, Fisher and Paykel, into 'Auckland' month ago.

Steinlager 2 leads by 14 hours overall ahead of Menzies of Switzerland with Fisher and Paykel third and Britain's Rothmans fourth.

Even before the race resumed, police warned of mayhem on the



The mast of a moored yacht (upper right) entangles and dislodges the

mizzen mast of Sweden's 'The Card'. (Reuter wirephoto)

harbour. "I've seen the starts of three Whitbread races from Auckland and it's madness," said Sergeant Lloyd McIntyre of the Water Police.

"People seem to lose all control and how we've managed to avoid fatalities I don't know." The yachts, equipped with radar to detect icebergs, will head south to pick up strong winds on the way to Cape Horn. The leaders are expected to cut a day off the record of 19 days from Auckland to the Cape.

Work to dismantle the village will start tomorrow.

Ponamorenko and Klimova lead

LENINGRAD, USSR, Feb 4 (AP): World champions Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponamorenko are so far ahead in the ice dancing event of the European Figure Skating Championships that only a major disaster can keep them from winning on Saturday.

If they do win, it would be their second straight European crown and sixth straight ice dance crown for the Soviets.

On Friday, Soviet Viktor Petrenko won the men's final, opening his programme with a difficult jump combination of a triple axel-triple toe loop and adding four more triples later.

It was Petrenko's first gold. He had won bronze medals in the 1988 Olympics and world championships and in the 1988 and 1989 European Championships.

"I was very nervous," the 20-year-old said. "Nothing is ever done easily."

Although he scaled down a couple of double jumps to singles late in the programme, he made no mistakes that cost him the title — the third event to be decided at the competition.

Petrenko's victory continued the Soviet domination in the men's event. Led by Aleksandr Fadeev, the Soviets swept the event in 1987 and 1988. Fadeev won in 1989 while Petrenko was injured last year.

But Fadeev, a four-time champion, bowed out of this year's event with a back injury.

"I think that with the quality of my skating tonight, if Fadeev were here, still would have won," Petrenko said.

Karpov defeats computer

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, Feb 4 (AP): Chess champion Anatoly Karpov proved that man can still outwit machine when he beat supercomputer Deep Thought late on Friday in a hard-fought match that went down to the wire.

With only 90 seconds left to Deep Thought's 12 minutes, Karpov forced the computer to resign in the face of inevitable defeat.

Karpov, the world's No. 2-ranked chess player, made a decisive penetration into Deep Thought's territory with his king after the computer, which can calculate 800,000 moves in a second, made a strategic error.

The match, which lasted nearly two hours, was held in Harvard's Memorial Hall. One member of Deep Thought's crew, Sen-Hsiung Hsu, moved the pieces based on the computer's commands.

Chris Chabris, alumni adviser to the Harvard Chess Club, said Karpov was "very relieved" to have finished the game with his world-class reputation intact.

Strawberry undergoing treatment



Darryl Strawberry

NEW YORK, Feb 4 (Reuter): Outfielder Darryl Strawberry of the New York Mets, arrested in Los Angeles last week and accused of threatening his wife with a gun, was admitted yesterday to an alcohol-treatment programme, statement from the team said.

Strawberry was admitted to the New York's Smithers Institute for treatment after flying from California with Mets doctor Allan Lans, a psychiatrist.

The outfielder was arrested on January 26 and accused of threatening his wife, Lisa, with a gun during a domestic quarrel. Although his wife dropped the charges resulting from the quarrel, Strawberry faces a misdemeanor weapons-possession charge in Los Angeles.

"Our first concern is Darryl's welfare," said Frank Cashen, general manager of the National League team. "We have placed Dr Lans, who is our employee assistance programme director, at his total disposal."

"My heart goes out to Darryl Strawberry. I'm not even thinking about baseball now, just about his welfare," said Mets manager Dave Johnson, interviewed from Orlando, Florida.

Strawberry, in the option year of his contract, will be paid \$1.8 million in 1990. Given the recent escalation in salaries, he has been arguing with the Mets over a multi-year extension in which he has demanded \$4 million a year.

Last season was an off year for Strawberry. He hit .225 with 27 home runs and 77 runs batted in.

Nicklaus not excited about Senior Tour

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif., Feb 4 (Reuter): Although the Senior PGA Tour is eagerly awaiting the arrival of Jack Nicklaus, the "Golden Bear" is not quite so excited about being eligible to play on the circuit for players 50 and older.

Nicklaus, who turned 50 less than two weeks ago is playing in the pro-am here this weekend, his first regular PGA Tour event since reaching the half-century mark.

"When I feel I am no longer competitive out here then I'll get enthused about the Senior Tour," Nicklaus said before Thursday's first round of the \$1.07 million tournament.

"The Senior Tour is great for a lot of players. It's allowed them to stay in the game. But I've already beaten all those guys."

Nicklaus' pride was kept in check yesterday. Playing in swirling winds, Nicklaus shot a 78 on the famed Pebble Beach Golf Links for a three-day 221 total. He trails leader and defending champion Mark O'Meara by 12 strokes.

Despite his unwillingness to embrace the

Senior Tour, Nicklaus also is a realist. He has 70 career victories and has won more than \$5 million in prize money. But he also has not won on the regular Tour since claiming the 1986 Masters.

"I'm not as competitive as I used to be," said Nicklaus, who will play in a few Senior Tour events this season. "It's a tough grind for a fellow 50 years old."

Nicklaus will make his Senior Tour debut March 29 in Arizona.

O'Meara, who was three-strokes off the pace after Friday's round, has a total of seven-under par 209. The winds were so high — approximately 40 miles per hour (64 kph) — O'Meara's 69 was one of the only sub-70 rounds.

Rocco Mediate, also playing cypress, bogeyed the last three holes for a 73 and was alone at six-under par 210.

Payne Stewart, who was tied for the second day lead with Mediate and Bob Gilder, had a two-over-par 74 for a 211 total. Stewart

played at Pebble Beach.

Gilder was a victim of the winds and, playing at cypress point, shot an 85.

Tom Kite, Kenny Perry and Dave Eichelberger were tied at three-under-par 213. Mark Calcavecchia, Johnny Miller, Mark Brooks and Zimabwwe's Nick Price were tied at 214.

And in Lake Worth, Fla., Pat Bradley slipped a bit with a two-over-par 74 yesterday, but still held onto a five-stroke lead heading into the final round of the \$300,000 Lake Worth LPGA Classic golf tournament.

Bradley's finished at 11 under par after 54 holes for the lead over Dottie Mochrie, whose 67 jumped her from 19th after play on Friday to the second spot.

Bradley, who shot a 65 on Friday, had three consecutive birdies — on the second, third and fourth holes — for an 11-stroke lead over the pack yesterday. But on the ninth hole, Bradley hit her approach shot into a green-side bunker and took a bogey. She also had bogies on the 11th, 12th, 16th and 17th holes.

Ferguson in more trouble after draw

LONDON, Feb 4 (Reuter): The last time his team played Manchester City, Alex Ferguson came close to putting his head in an oven and waiting for the fans to turn on the gas.

After yesterday's disappointing 1-1 draw at Old Trafford against their old rivals, the troubled Manchester United manager is likely to be feeling the heat more than ever.

While Liverpool took advantage of the rain that washed out all the top League matches in southern England by beating Everton 2-1 and going three points clear at the top, United had to fight to stay one point clear of the relegation zone.

Aston Villa, behind Liverpool on goal difference with 46 points before yesterday, had their march at Queens' Park Rangers rained off but stayed second with two games in hand.

United have not won in 11 League matches — their worst run since the depressing days of Frank O'Farrell in 1971.

For many fans, the 100th First division Manchester derby was the ideal match to break the deadlock in style — on home ground against a team that needed to be taught a lesson.

The last meeting at City's ground saw Ferguson's expensive line-up thrashed 5-1 and the manager had vowed before the match to "move mountains" to ensure revenge was secured.

"I was as close to putting my head in an oven as I have ever been," he wrote in the programme for yesterday's match.



Liverpool's Ronnie Whelan (left) and Glenn Hysen (centre) close in on Everton's Kevin Sheedy. (Reuter Wirephoto)

"And I think there would have been plenty of volunteers to turn on the gas had I done so," he added.

He would be well advised to buy an electric oven after yesterday's game, in which his players took only three minutes to squander their painfully earned

70th minute lead.

"We made some unbelievable errors but City didn't cash in," he said later. "We showed a lack of confidence before half-time and we also showed anxiety even when we went 1-0 up."

Clayton Blackmore, whose goal saved United from an

embarrassing draw at Fourth Division Hereford last week in the fourth round of the Football Association (FA) Cup, was again Ferguson's hero when he headed United into the lead.

But Ian Brightwell, who entered the team as a replacement for suspended City

midfielder Peter Reid, rifled a sensational 25-metre volley past keeper Jim Leighton for the equaliser.

"Peter Reid has never hit a shot like that in his life yet. Brightwell comes in as his replacement and does it against us. It was an incredible goal," Ferguson said sadly.

Liverpool's win was their 14th consecutive match without a defeat but Everton manager Colin Harvey felt his team, beaten 3-1 in the previous Merseyside derby, was cheated.

"We got what we deserved in the first half — but we didn't get what we deserved in the second," he said.

In particular, he queried the 30th minute penalty awarded to Liverpool after centre-half Dave Watson was said to have handled a cross in the Everton penalty area.

"The referee didn't give it from 10 yards (metres), the linesman gave it from 40 yards. I can't say any more than that."

England strikers John Barnes and Peter Beardsley scored both of Liverpool's goals in the first half, Scottish striker Graeme Sharp headed Everton's goal in the 44th minute.

In Scotland, champions Rangers extended their Premier Division lead to seven points, beating Dundee United 3-1. Their closest rivals Hearts and Aberdeen drew 2-2.

Neighbours Celtic, who seems to be emulating Manchester United goalless ways more these days, were held to a 0-0 draw at bottom-of-the-table Dundee.



New York Knicks' Rod Strickland (right) races down the court past Indian Pacers' Rickey Green in the NBA game last night. (Reuter wirephoto)

Portland beat Dallas

PORTLAND, Oregon, Feb 4 (AP): Buck Williams matched his season high with 24 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, while Jerome Kersey added 23 points as Portland defeated Dallas, the Trail Blazers' 11th straight National Basketball Association (NBA) victory at home.

Dallas, which had a seven-game winning snapped at Utah Friday night, suffered another blow when forward Adrian Dantley broke the flunk in his right leg 34 seconds into the game. He is expected to miss six weeks.

The Trail Blazers led 92-79 at the end of three quarters and boosted

their lead to 106-86 early in the fourth period. They went on to expand the lead further until the game ended.

Sam Perkins led Dallas with 20 points, and Derek Harper added 19.

Clyde Drexler had 18 points, Terry Porter 17 and Kevin Duckworth 16 for Portland, which trails the Los Angeles Lakers by just a half-game in the Pacific Division.

Results:

Detroit 105 Cleveland 90

New York 112 Indiana 99

L.A. Clippers 113 Orlando 94

Seattle 104 Washington 84

San Antonio 112 Chicago 81

Phoenix 130 Houston 105

Portland 131 Dallas 106

فكرنا في الرحلة

New Zealand's favourite son achieves the impossible

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb. 4. (Reuters) The chant has been part of New Zealand cricket for the past 13 years. It starts quietly, then rises in volume and energy as a lean, menacing figure makes a preliminary sideways shuffle and swings to an easy run-up.

"Had-lee, Had-lee" comes the cry from Lancaster Park's sun-drenched terraces as Canterbury's favourite son whips his right arm over in that perfectly controlled action which has become part of New Zealand folklore.

The chant became a roar today when

Richard Hadlee speared a delivery through Indian Sanjay Manjrekar's hastily constructed forward defensive shot to become the first man to take 400 Test wickets.

Play was suspended for several minutes as Hadlee's colleagues surrounded the great bowler and the crowd stood to applaud. He was presented with flowers and Indian manager Bishen Bedi came on to the field to offer his personal congratulations.

Seventeen years after his Test debut, a year after his last international and 10 weeks after an operation on a damaged Achilles tendon, Hadlee achieved what had once been

thought impossible.

Twenty-six years ago England's Freddie Trueman made cricketing history with his 500th Test wicket and a memorable quote.

Will anybody break his record, the extrovert Yorkshireman was asked. "Whoever it is will be bloody tired," Trueman replied.

Trueman's comment if he had been asked about the possibility of a New Zealander taking 400 Test wickets would probably have been unimpeachable.

In those days New Zealand were very much the poor relations of international

cricket, a side who served mainly to improve their opponents' batting and bowling averages.

The face of international cricket changed in the 1980s and New Zealand's record over the decade was inferior only to the all-conquering West Indies.

Their spearhead was inevitably Hadlee. A raw, erratic tearaway when he entered Test cricket in 1973, Hadlee's early development was slow.

He was left out of the Test side as often as he was included and it was not until 1976 when he ran through the Indians at Welling-

ton's Basin Reserve that he could be sure of his place.

In the following year he took on the Australians and their great fast bowler Dennis Lillee single-handed with both bat and ball at Auckland's Eden Park.

The crowd responded with the chant "Had-lee Had-lee" which was quickly adopted throughout the country.

English county cricket was responsible for Hadlee's development into the finest pace bowler of his age and a left-handed bat capable of scoring two Test centuries.

He cut back his run and, while retaining

his ability to bowl a genuinely quick delivery, based his attack on movement off the pitch.

Perhaps his finest performance came in the first Test against Australia in 1985 when he took nine wickets in an innings and 15 in the match.

That performance encapsulated the Hadlee style.

For hour after hour he relentlessly probed the Australian batsmen's weakness, varying his pace, moving the ball off the seam and bowling the occasional wicked bouncer.

A perfectionist in everything he does, Hadlee has had his share of physical and

mental torment.

He suffered a nervous breakdown in 1984 and his changes of every playing cricket at all after his recent operation were noted as only moderate.

Called in to the first Test side because of an injury to Willie Watson, Hadlee responded by taking the first three Indian wickets yesterday to take his total to 399.

He had to wait until this afternoon to take the elusive 400th victim but the faithful at Lancaster Park were not impatient.

"Had-lee, Had-lee," they chanted. At the age of 38, Richard Hadlee was back.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Match abandoned

SYDNEY, Feb. 4. (Reuters) Day two of the third and final cricket Test between Australia and Pakistan was abandoned by match umpires due to heavy rain today. The opening day of play was also abandoned.

Sports boycott

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Feb. 4. (AP) The bold political concessions announced by President F.W. de Klerk will provide a major boost for efforts to end the sports boycott of South Africa, prominent sports administrators said yesterday.

Chance wasted

SEVILLE, Spain, Feb. 4. (Reuters) Atletico Madrid squandered a chance to close the gap on city rivals Real at the top of the Spanish soccer First Division when they succumbed 2-1 away to Sevilla yesterday.

Games places

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 4. (Reuters) The European Football Union (UEFA) has announced the qualifying groups for the European Under-21 Championship and said four places in the 1992 Olympic Games soccer tournament would also be at stake.

Blair triumphs

LAKE PLACID, New York, Feb. 4. (AP) Former Olympic gold medalist Bonnie Blair won her third consecutive 500-metre world cup race and also captured the 1,500-metre sprint at the Mizuno World Cup Speed Skating Championships got under way yesterday at the Olympic Oval.

Bateman dies

EAST AMWELL, New Jersey, Feb. 4. (AP) Raymond H. Bateman Jr., a member of two US Olympic teams and a four-time national judo double champion, collapsed and died during a squash match on Thursday. He was 34.

US team

BUDAPEST, Feb. 4. (UPI) The US national soccer team will visit Budapest Mar 20 for an exhibition match against a Hungarian selection, the official state news agency, MTI, said yesterday.

Exhibition match

PRAGUE, Feb. 4. (UPI) World Tennis No 1 Ivan Lendl, will play an exhibition match against Miloslav Mecir later this month to help a local children's hospital located near his parents' home, the official Czechoslovakian state news agency, CTK, said yesterday.

\$150,000 transfer

NEWCASTLE, England, Feb. 4. (UPI) Second Division soccer club Newcastle United are close to completing the £150,000 (\$250,000) transfer of its Brazilian striker Mirandinha back to his former club Palmeiras, it was announced yesterday.

Swindon officials

LONDON, Feb. 4. (UPI) Swindon town chairman Brian Hillier and former manager Lou Macari will face a Football Association disciplinary hearing Feb 12 to answer charges of unauthorised betting, the FA announced yesterday.

McAvennie fined

LONDON, Feb. 4. (UPI) Second Division West Ham United has fined its striker Frank McAvennie two weeks wages following an alleged incident involving the club's commercial manager Brian Bloor, the club announced yesterday.

Kiwis gain whiff of win

India follow on 295 behind



Richard Hadlee

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb. 4. (Reuters) New Zealand gained enough ground to get a strong whiff of victory on the third day of the first cricket Test against India today.

New Zealand pace bowler Richard Hadlee became the first bowler in Test history to take 400 wickets, but New Zealand had more to celebrate at Lancaster Park than his personal achievement.

With Danny Morrison taking five wickets in a spell of six overs, New Zealand bowled out India for only 164 and making them follow on 295 behind, had reduced them to 210 for five in the second.

In effect, India, who need another 85 runs to make New Zealand bat, are six wickets down for Navjot Singh Sidhu, who made a brave 51 in their first innings, has fractured a knuckle in his right hand and will not be able to bat.

Before the Indian first innings began to disintegrate their overnight partnership of Sidhu and night watchman Venkatapathy Raju added 46 off only 13 overs in the first hour and looked to be in no trouble.

But the dismissal of the

injured Sidhu, who struck a ball from Morrison, triggered off the collapse. Resistance now came only from Venkatapathy Raju, who was last out for 31, having batted for 133 minutes.

India started promisingly in their second innings, with W.V. Raman and Manoj Prabhakar, pitchforked into the opening opposition in Sidhu's absence, putting on 80 for the first wicket.

At that point, Martin Snedden produced a sharp off cutter to bowl Prabhakar.

The stage was now set for Hadlee to complete his feat.

This Hadlee did by rattling Sanjay Manjrekar's offstump, only five minutes later.

Bouquets of flowers were presented to Hadlee on the field and the crowd gave him a standing ovation that lasted at least three minutes.

India's captain Mohammed Azharuddin shook Hadlee's hand as he walked in to bat next and India's current manager Bishen Bedi, himself an accomplished bowler, went out to offer his congratulations.

Raman had not looked very convincing at the start of the innings but he stayed undefeated at the end with 85, including 10 fours and a six.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 459 (J. Wright 185, K. Rutherford 89, A. Jones 52)

INDIA first innings (overnight 87 for three)

W. Raman lbw b Hadlee 0
N. Sidhu lbw b Morrison 51
S. Manjrekar lbw b Hadlee 5
S. Venkatapathy Raju c Crowe b Snedden 31
S. Tendulkar c Smith b Morrison 0
M. Prabhakar c Smith b Snedden 1
Kapil Dev c Snedden b Morrison 4
K. More c Smith b Morrison 1
A. Wasson c Smith b Morrison 2
N. Hirve not out 1
Extras (lb-5, lb-5, nb-10) 20
Total 164

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-27, 3-88, 4-146, 5-146, 6-148, 7-153, 8-158, 9-161

Bowling: Hadlee 14-1-45-3, Morrison 16-2-75-5, Bracewell 3-0-14-0, Snedden 12-5-20-2

INDIA second innings

W. Raman not out 85
M. Prabhakar b Snedden 40
S. Manjrekar b Hadlee 4
M. Azharuddin b Bracewell 30
K. More b Hadlee 18
S. Tendulkar c Smith b Bracewell 24
Kapil Dev not out 4
Extras (lb-2, nb-10) 12
Total (for five wickets) 210

Fall of wickets: 1-80, 2-85, 3-135, 4-160, 5-208

Bowling: Hadlee 13-0-38-2, Morrison 12-0-67-5, Snedden 19-4-46-1, Rutherford 5-0-21-0, Bracewell 15-3-36-2



Gatting asked to end tour

Leaders of the anti-rebel tour protesters read out a petition in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, on Saturday calling for the former England cricket captain Mike Gatting (2nd from left) to end the tour. Gatting was later reported to have been hit by an empty soft drink can. (Reuters wirephoto)

Stewart hits fine ton

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts, Feb. 4. (Reuters) Alec Stewart struck a superb 125 to help England to a big first innings total of 444 for six declared in the opening match of their West Indies cricket tour against the Leeward Islands yesterday.

In two hours battling before stumps on the second day of their four-day match, the Red Stripe Cup champions replied with 138 for three.

Richie Richardson blazed a brilliant unseasoned 81 to follow his 125 on the same ground last month against Guyana and is now averaging over 100 in his eight first-class innings in the Caribbean this season.

Stewart, 65 overnight out of 245 for two, reached his hundred in his first first-class innings for England 25 minutes before lunch and did not play a false stroke until he swept the off-spin of Noel Guishard straight to square leg not long after the interval.

He had battled with unflagging concentration for six and a quarter hours and faced 308 balls, hitting 14 fours.

Although the wicket was a placid one and the Leewards were without their opening bowlers — the two Benjamins (Kenneth and Winston) did not take the field owing to injury — Stewart should have booked the number three berth for the first Test.

His third-wicket stand with Robin

Smith realised 144 in 57 overs. Smith was in fine form and his 71 included four fours and a six.

Stewart's main rival for the Test spot, Rob Bailey, made only a single before he pushed half-forward to the lively Hamish Anthony and was adjusted lbw.

Nasser Hussain struggled early on but became more confident, scoring 41 from 75 balls.

Smith and Hussain were both bowled by Guishard, Smith playing an awful shot across the line and Hussain driving over the top of a fullish delivery.

Useful runs also came from Phil DeFreitas, who hit Ralston Otto twice for six in one over and contributed 17 not out in 15 minutes.

Remarkably, the Leewards bowled 74 overs of spin out of 166, although this was partly self-enforced. Only very occasionally did their seamers get any life from an easy-paced wicket.

England captain Graham Gooch made a positive declaration at tea when he could have opted for more batting practice.

The decision was justified when England took three Leeward Islands wickets in the first 19 overs.

Stewart Williams played on to Gladstone Small in the fourth over and, although the 50 was posted in

only the 11th over thanks to some dazzling strokeplay by Richardson, Small removed Ricky Basse in the next over when he played across and was lbw.

DeFreitas, who was pulled for four and six by Richardson in his first over, trapped Keith Arthurton lbw, also playing across.

But Richardson then crashed Keith Medlycott twice for four in his first over to reach his 50 in only 52 balls, having hit 10 fours and a six.

Richardson and Otto hammered the England attack at the end of the day, putting on 66 in just over 10 overs.



Alec Stewart

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings (overnight 244 for two)

G. Gooch c Harris b W. Benjamin 46
W. Larkins c and b Arthurton 107
A. Stewart c sub b Guishard 125
R. Smith b Guishard 71
N. Hussain b Guishard 42
R. Bailey lbw b Anthony 1
J. Russell not out 15
P. DeFreitas not out 17
Extras (lb-2, lb-9, w-5, nb-4) 20
Total (for six wickets, declared) 444

Fall of wickets: 1-86, 2-220, 3-364, 4-379, 5-380, 6-424

Did not bat: G. Small, L. Medlycott, D. Malcott

Bowling: K. Benjamin 6-4-4-0, W. Benjamin 21-3-62-1, Anthony 32-11-150-3, Arthurton 11-3-23-1, Otto 10-0-39-0

LEEWARD ISLANDS first innings

R. Basse lbw b Small 21
S. Williams b Small 18
R. Richardson not out 81
K. Arthurton lbw b DeFreitas 7
R. Otto not out 18
Extras (lb-2, w-1, nb-7) 10
Total (for three) 138

To bat: H. Anthony, E. Baptiste, L. Harris, N. Guishard, W. Benjamin, K. Benjamin

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-60, 3-72

Bowling: Malcolm 7-3-24-0, Small 10-1-43-2, DeFreitas 8-3-38-1, Medlycott 5-0-31-0

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Shoemaker falters in last race of career

ARCADIA, Calif., Feb. 4. (Reuters) Willie Shoemaker — the world's most successful jockey — was treated to a grand send-off for his last race yesterday by everyone except the horses.

The afternoon filled with pomp and circumstance did not fade to a Hollywood-type ending, as Shoemaker's horse Patchy Groundfog faltered down the stretch and finished fourth behind Exemplary Leader in Shoemaker's last race after 41 years in the saddle.

"I started fast but I didn't finish last," said the diminutive

Shoemaker who ended his career with 8,833 victories in 40,350 races dating to 1949.

The festivities at Santa Anita Race Track before Shoemaker's last race called "The legend's last ride," — a \$100,000, one-mile test on turf — included a taped message from President Bush who told Shoemaker: "You thrilled us all."

The 58-year-old Shoemaker replied: "I'm very, very impressed. I'm glad to hear the President's a horse player."

A bagpipe band played "Auld

Lang Syne" as many in the estimated crowd of 64,573 shouted "Shoe, Shoe."

Shoemaker, who usually does not show much emotion, became teary-eyed in the pre-race ceremony which included fellow-jockeys standing behind him wearing their silks.

"I want to thank all these fellows behind me here that I've ridden with all these years, 30 or 40 years," said the 4'11" (1.5 metres), 98-pound (44.45 kg) Shoemaker.

"I've had a lot of fun with

them. Thank you very much," he said, his voice breaking as his mother, wife and daughter stood next to him.

Shoemaker kept his horse in good position from the start of the race, staying behind the early leader Splendor Catch. He made his move down the stretch and briefly held the lead as the race announcer broke with tradition and screamed "Come on Shoe."

But Shoemaker and his mount faded and could only watch as the other horses passed by.

Exemplary Leader finished

first by a half length, followed by Happy Toss and Orabi.

"I don't care what the fans think," said Eddie Delahousie, the winning rider, after the race. "It's a competitive business and you go out to win. Shoe's been a great person and a great jockey himself and he knows nobody in this race was going to give him anything."

After Shoemaker got off his horse for the last time the crowd gave him one last ovation as he walked through the tunnel toward the paddock.



Shoemaker (centre) riding his last race. (Reuters wirephoto)



'Shoe' tries to hold back tears. (Reuters wirephoto)



Willie is carried by fellow jockeys. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS BRIEFS

Guernsey Open

ST PETER PORT, Guernsey, Feb. 4, (Reuters): World number one Susan Devoy of New Zealand was to face England's Lisa Ople in Sunday's final of the Guernsey Open women's squash championship after a tough semifinal victory yesterday. Devoy fought her way to a 58-minute 4-9-4 10-9 9-1 victory over Australian Danielle Drady, ranked fourth in the world, holding firm when Drady served four times for the third game. Ople took just 30 minutes to dispose of world champion and fellow Guernsey native Martine Le Moignan 9-4 9-5-3.

World record

MOSCOW, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Lyudmila Narozhnikova of the Soviet Union set an indoor world record in the 60 metres hurdles of 7.71 seconds today, Tass news agency said. Narozhnikova's mark at the Soviet Athletics Championships in the Ural city of Chelyabinsk beat the previous record of 7.73 set by Cornelia Oechelmeier of East Germany in Vienna on Feb. 25 last year.

Onikoube Cup

TOKYO, Feb. 4, (AP): Austria's Werner Horoz outdistanced Sweden's Anders Frost in the Giant Slalom final today and won the 6-million-yen (\$42,000) Onikoube Cup, seventh leg of 12 dual slalom ski meets on Japan's professional circuit.

Halsall triumphs

PARIS, Feb. 4, (AP): Dano Halsall of Switzerland was off like a cannon in the men's 50-metre freestyle race at the Paris international swimming meet yesterday and held on to defeat the highly rated American duo of Matt Biondi and Tom Jager.

Hoeftleiner wins

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy, Feb. 4, (AP): Helmut Hoeftleiner of Austria declared himself the world's top downhill skier after winning his third World Cup race in nine days today in the fastest and most spectacular of the ski disciplines. "I feel like I am the No. 1 downhiller in the world, and I feel great," said the 30-year-old Hoeftleiner after edging Ake Skarvald of Norway and Franz Heinzer of Switzerland by 0.20 seconds.

French soccer

PARIS, Feb. 4, (Reuters): French First Division soccer results today:

Paris	1	Monaco	1
Caen	1	Angers	0
Lille	2	PSG	0
Metz	1	Marseille	1
Montpellier	1	Nantes	2
Nice	3	Auxerre	1
Racing Paris	3	Amiens	2
Sochaux	1	Lyon	0
St Etienne	1	Bordeaux	1
Toulouse	0	Toulouse	0

Italian soccer

ROME, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Results of Italian First Division soccer matches today:

Ajax	2	Sampdoria	2
Bari	1	Frosinone	0
Cosenza	0	Roma	3
Florentina	2	AC Milan	0
Genoa	0	Bologna	0
Inter	0	Ascoli	0
Lazio	0	Verona	0
Napoli	3	Cremone	0
Udinese	3	Lecco	1

British soccer

LONDON, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Results of English league soccer matches played today:

Division One	Division Two		
Tottenham	4	Norwich	0
Newcastle	1	Sheff Wed	1
Swindon	3	Leeds	2

Marathon race

OTTA, Japan, Feb. 4, (AP): Poland's Boguslaw Pajek pulled ahead in the last 500 metres today and won the 39th Beppu-Oita marathon by four seconds.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubs Bridge Club games played on Saturday:

N/S

1. Aurora & Jaggi
2. Nahi Akel & Drexler
3. Bianca & Ahmed Tawil
EW
1. Capt Salman Ali & George
2. Lollo Murthwaite & Dona Materny
3. Banerji & A. Shah

Whitaker, Chanet and Camacho triumph

McCallum defeats Collins to retain title

BOSTON, Feb. 4, (AP): Mike McCallum piled up points early and withstood a furious finish by Irish Steve Collins yesterday to retain the World Boxing Association middleweight championship with a 12-round unanimous decision.

McCallum improved his record to 37-1 with his first successful defense of the title he won in London with a decision over Herol Graham last May. But he was unable to add Collins, a 3-1 underdog, to his string of 31 knockout victims.

Collins, a Dublin electrician now living in the Boston area, surprised everyone with his endurance and ability in the nationally televised bout before a packed house of more than 3,500 at Hynes Convention Centre.

There were no knockouts, but the fighters rocked each other occasionally in the slugfest. Collins had his nose bloodied and sustained a cut eye in the fourth round, while McCallum trickled blood from the mouth.

McCallum, a former junior middleweight champion, weighed 159, while Collins was at the 160-pound limit.

McCallum, known as "The Body Snatcher" for his inside hammering, scored heavily in the early rounds while forcing Collins to backpedal and try to



McCallum (right) lands a solid right to Collins' jaw. (Reuters wirephoto)

counterpunch.

Collins appeared hurt and weary after the first round, but suddenly came alive in the sixth. He stopped fighting on his toes and began landing punches while pressing the attack.

McCallum landed hard lefts and rights at times, but was unable to put Collins down. The Irishman also landed, but missed often in a bid to land a knockout punch.

Collins tried vainly for a KO in the 12th round, but McCallum hung on until the final bell and

won easily on all three judges' scorecards.

In Atlantic City, Pernell "Sweetpea" Whitaker, using his superior speed and stinging left jab, retained his two world lightweight titles on a unanimous points decision over Freddie Pendleton last Saturday night.

The 1984 Olympic gold medalist repeatedly slipped under Pendleton's right jabs and hooks to retain his World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation crowns.

There were no knockdowns in the 12-round bout, but in the 11th round Pendleton staggered the champion with a solid right. Whitaker managed to slip away.

In St Dizier, France, thirty-five-old Itinerant Fairground stall-holder Jean-Maurice Chanet of France snatched the European heavyweight title early this morning with an upset victory over defending champion Derek Williams of Britain.

Chanet, who turned professional only four years ago and who has lost 10 of his 28 fights,

beat the 24-year-old Briton on a clear and unanimous points decision.

Two of the three judges gave the fight 118-112 to the Frenchman and the third 119-111 to Chanet.

Macho Camacho called this fight his turning point. He stuck out his glove last night and made the right turn.

"I did everything I wanted to," Camacho said. "I fought the fight I expected."

Vinny Pazienza's eyes for a brutal 12-round decision and reiterated his World Boxing Organisation junior welterweight title at the Atlantic City Convention Centre.

The fight was billed as "put up or shut up," and the flashy, loud-mouthed Camacho did exactly that. While Pazienza complained to the referee about Camacho's holding, Camacho remained silent. He spoke with his gloves, counter-punching with uncanny precision and looking sharper than he has in several years.



Collins (right) and McCallum exchange blows. (Reuters wirephoto)

Masur takes Australia to victory

Becker slams West Germany

PERTH, Australia, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Wally Masur completed his second marathon five-set victory in three days to propel Australia to a thrilling Davis Cup first round victory over France today.

Masur followed up his win over Yannick Noah in the opening singles by beating Henri Leconte 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 to give Australia an unbeaten 3-1 lead in their world group tie.

Australia now face New Zealand, winners over Yugoslavia on Saturday, at home in the second round.

It was a particularly sweet moment for the 26-year-old Masur, ranked 33 in the world, who had lost all five of his previous matches against Leconte.

But there was controversy in the final game of the match when, on break point to Leconte, a Masur serve was called out by a line judge only for American chair umpire Fran McDowell to overrule the call. She then mistakenly called first service before changing her mind again and awarding the point to Masur.

A furious Leconte and French captain Patrice Dominguez protested at length but the decision stood and Masur served out for a nailbiting victory.

Noah cut Australia's winning margin to 3-2 with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Darren Cahill in the final dead rubber which was reduced to the best of three sets.

In Barcelona, Thomas Muster beat young Spaniard Sergi Bruguera 7-5, 6-1, 7-6 in brilliant winter sunshine today to give Austria an unbeaten 3-1 lead



Leconte argues with the umpire. (Reuters wirephoto)

over Spain in their Davis Cup world group first round tennis tie.

Muster, who spearheaded Austria's 5-0 win over Australia at the same stage in last year's cup, showed he was fully recovered from the knee injury sustained in a serious car accident last April.

In Carlsbad, Calif., Davis Cup rookies Rick Leach and Jim Pugh provided the United States with an unbeatable 3-0 lead in their Davis Cup world group tie against Mexico yesterday with a doubles victory that put the Americans into the quarterfinals against Czechoslovakia.

Leach and Pugh defeated Jorge Lozano and Leonardo

Lavalle 6-4, 6-7, 7-5, 6-1 to follow up on opening day singles victories by substitutes Jay Berger and Brad Gilbert.

In Bonn, Wimbledon champion Boris Becker, increasingly disenchanted with life in top tennis, has hit out at his native West Germany for putting too much pressure on him on and off the court.

Answering recent criticism over his withdrawal from this year's Davis Cup, the world number two said the West Germans, who experienced a major tennis boom in the late 1980s when they twice won the Davis Cup, believed they owned him.

For the last five years a whole sport and entertainment indus-

try has been built on my shoulders that is weighing me down more and more," the West German magazine Der Spiegel quoted him as saying in an interview to be published tomorrow.

Fans watching West Germany's Davis Cup win over the Dutch this weekend held banners complaining Becker was not playing. Some supporters asked for their tickets back before the match.

The 22-year-old came under fire from businessmen who said his withdrawal last week was an insult to the sport's sponsors.

"Is Germany really just Becker? What other conclusion are you supposed to come to? What do they want from me?" he said.

"What's going on is they are systematically putting a person in their pockets. And I'm going to defend myself against that. I belong to no-one."

Becker's remarks are further evidence of his dissatisfaction with the burdens of commercial and public life surrounding tennis which he says are likely to drive him out of the game by the time he is 25.

The number of West Germans taking up the game leapt by some 20 per cent in the four years following Becker's first Wimbledon triumph as a teenager in 1985.

The commercial benefits have been felt not only in the box office of major tournaments but in the country's sports shops. Companies have rushed to get their brand names blaring from hoardings at the side of the court wherever he has played.



Graf returns a backhand to Sanchez. (Reuters wirephoto)

Graf routs Sanchez

TOKYO, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Steffi Graf emphasised her dominance of women's tennis when she demolished Arantxa Sanchez in the final of the Pan Pacific indoor tournament today.

The 20-year-old West German cruised to a 6-1 6-2 victory over the 18-year-old Spaniard, who beat her in last year's French Open final, to secure her 46th career title.

Graf got off to a superb start with two successive aces and Sanchez, playing her first tournament of the year, won just four points on the German's serve during the set, which was over in 20 minutes.

Aces

Graf also dominated most of the second set with brilliant serves, including four aces, and powerful forehand returns to dash any hopes Sanchez had of extending the match to a final set.

Graf, who won the Tokyo tournament in 1986, attributed her overwhelming victory to the fast surface which favoured her game.



Sanchez reacts to a judgement. (Reuters wirephoto)

"She (Sanchez) does not have the power to hit the ball. She's a player who can play very well on clay courts. But if somebody plays fast she doesn't really have a chance to do anything," said Graf.



Cars come out of the fourth turn and head for the start line. (Reuters wirephoto)

Wollek leads 61-car field

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, Feb. 4, (AP): Defending champion Bob Wollek, driving a Porsche 962C prototype, led a field of 61 sports cars yesterday at the start of the Daytona 24 hours.

The Frenchman, who will share the pole-winning car with Sarel van der Merwe of South Africa and Dominic Dobson, was one of the strongest favourites in the grueling, twice-around-the-clock event.

The black, red and white car quickly opened a 4-second lead. The team operated by Jim Busby, which fielded the winning Porsche a year ago, has switched to a Nissan GT-R-ZXT this year.

The car, co-driven by Kevin Cogan, Mauro Baldi of Italy and John Paul Jr, blew an engine during the 30-minute warmup session just over three hours before the 3:30 pm EST (2030 GMT) start of the race.

The crew, working furiously, managed to place a new engine in the car and it was on the starting grid in the third row for the two-by-two start on the 3.56-mile (5.7-kilometre), 11-turn circuit at Daytona International Speedway.

On the front row with Wollek's record-breaking Porsche at the start was the Nissan GT-R co-driven by two-time defending Nissan Camel GTP champion Geoff Brabham, Chip Robinson, Bob Earl and Derek Daly of Ireland.

Baggs and Monroes stay at top

THE top three Mouchel Monday Daris League men's teams showed no sign of letting up the pace in this year's championship race. The main battle is still between Baggs and Monroes, but Campanologists have the bottom 3 teams to play in their last 4 games and may catch either of the above two teams should they falter.

A controlled 4-2 result has effectively ended any hopes Esles had, as they slumped to a 4th successive defeat, four high scores by acting captain Lewis Jorgensen set a fine example, as only Esles skipper Tony Robinson put up any resistance. Baggs were also well in control of a low scoring game with Tyne Tees FY winning all the first 3 games 2-1. Billy Sims maintained a glimmer of hope for the visitors, before both Mickey Mousie legs were also taken by Baggs. Monroes also ran up a 4-2 lead at home to Brahms & Leggs thanks to two 140's in 4 high scores from Erik Christensen and one from Roly Fernandez in his 3 high scores. They let the last MM leg slip, however, allowing Baggs to snatch back a slight game difference advantage at the top of the table.

A Hay for firsts at TCF, where Stars of the Year took a 3-2 lead, but were quite happy to settle for a draw and their first point this season. There were three other "firsts" as well: David Gardner and Steve Quinn both recorded wins after 14 and 9 games trying, and Gardner went a step further and had a first ever 140. Slight overkill on that though, as he actually scored a 174.

The final men's match saw Ragamuffins and Cottar Head play out a 3-3 draw, with Alan Walker providing a flash of inspirational darts. Being one of two unlucky players to hit a minimum score last season while being Monday League substitutes, this time as a bona fide Ragamuffin, he will receive a special 180 trophy.

The big ladies game of the day between Marilyn's and Featherlights ended 2-2, a result more satisfying to Featherlights, who remain 5 points behind in second place, but with 4 games in hand. Both the other matches played also ended 2-2 but Starlet Barbara Marks had her 4th high score, to lead the Monday League listings, as she responded to an excellent 139 from Debbie Longley of TCF. Tyne Teaser's Sarah Wake had her first trophy shot with 2 MM trebles against Nightlights, as Nightlights fall behind Cottar Head on game difference in the battle for 3rd place.

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W. Australia brush aside Sri Lankans

PERTH, Australia, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Western Australia shrugged off poor recent form to record a 6-run victory over Sri Lanka today.

It was the second of two day-night cricket matches between the two teams.

Sri Lanka won the first on Friday, but in today's game, struggling to field 11 fit men, they flew in little-known Nishantha Ratnayake from local cricket in Melbourne. Sri Lanka could not, however, name a 12th man.

Scoreboard

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

M. McPhee	run out	68
D. Ramshaw	c D. Ratnayake	68
Ramshaw	not out	77
G. Wood	not out	77
J. Brayshaw	b Asoka de Silva	24
T. Zoehrer	c Gemini b Asoka de Silva	7
Silva	not out	7
W. Andrews	b Asoka de Silva	21
B. Julian	c M. Ratnayake	21
b Ramshaw	not out	21
K. Macleay	not out	21
Extras (lb-1, lb-7, w-b, nb-2)		18
Total (six wickets - 48 overs)		208
Fall of wickets - 48 overs		179, 5-182, 8-197

Bowling: Ramish Ratnayake 10-1-34-0, Nishantha Ratnayake 8-0-31-0, Champaka Ramanyake 9-1-33-2, Arjuna Ranatunga 10-1-46-0, Asoka de Silva 10-0-45-3, Gurusinghe 1-0-11-0.

SRI LANKA

A. Samarasekera	c Wood b Mully	6
H. Tillekeratne	c Macleay	23
A. Gurusinha	run out	11
Aravinda de Silva	run out	16
A. Ratnayake	lbw b Matthews	24
S. Jayasuriya	run out	24
D. Ranasinghe	c Zoehrer b Mully	8
Asoka de Silva	c b Julian	15
Champaka Ramanyake	b Julian	15
Rumesh Ratnayake	c Mully	16
b Macleay	not out	16
Nishantha Ratnayake	not out	16
Extras (lb-7, w-17, 4-nb)		48
Total (40 overs)		143
Fall of wickets - 1-0-2-43, 3-48, 4-54, 5-67, 6-81, 7-108, 8-109, 9-142		
Bowling: Julian 6-1-25-2, Macleay 10-1-25-0, Matthews 6-1-33-2		

French rugby team coach gets it wrong

LONDON, Feb. 4, (Reuters): Jacques Fouroux admired France's most feared Five Nations opponents as coherent, inventive and faithful to a specific style of rugby union.

Ironically, when he said so the French coach did not have in mind the England team that thrashed the champions 26-7 in Paris yesterday.

But Fouroux was quick to recognise the extent of England's achievement when he compared them with the All Blacks, the world's best.

Fouroux said before the Five Nations Championship began last month that Scotland, whom his side face next at Murrayfield in two weeks' time, had been France's most difficult rivals for the last decade.

Scotland do fit his description, but England's performance at the Parc des Princes was full of coherence, faith in a particular style and even invention. The Scots, poor travellers in recent seasons, barely got past Ireland 13-10 in Dublin.

"The style of attacking defence that we have developed over the past two years was imposed on the French with emphatic effect," said England



French centre Denis Charvet (centre) is tackled by England's Rob Andrew as he passes the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

coach Roger Uttley.

Barring a block of their collective minds, England should do the Grand Slam and win the title for the first time since 1980. They play Wales at home in two weeks time and end their campaign against Scotland at Murrayfield a month later.

England may have achieved little during the last decade but they travelled across the English

channel better than any of France's other opponents, yesterday's triumph being their third since 1980 against none from the Scots, Irish or Welsh.

Fouroux failed to read the signs properly and continued to look ahead to the clash at Murrayfield in mid-February while preparing his side to face England at home.

Believing the way to world supremacy lay in imitating the

forward attrition of the All Blacks, Fouroux in his building for next year's World Cup has neglected the traditional French game of releasing fast and creative backs.

Two years ago this England side in the making lost only 10-9 at Parc des Princes. Last year they beat France 11-0 in London and France's pack were dominated almost throughout.

Yet Fouroux thought his current forwards, with three giants in the back row, could stand up to their English counterparts.

He expected them to win enough ball for a set of backs he believed more versatile than the relatively inexperienced English, failing to take fully into account the last 10 minutes of England's 23-0 drubbing of Ireland two weeks ago.

A key to England's cohesion is the successful pairing of Richard Hill and Rob Andrew at half back, Andrew's new found confidence permitting him to create a brilliant opening try for Rory Underwood.

Pierre Berbizier, in contrast, looked at sea and Franck Mesnel received hardly any clean ball.

Jeremy Guscott may have far

less cape than French stars such as Philippe Sella and Serge Blanco but he continues to underline his emergence on the international scene with at least one try per match for England.

The English defence was superb, the back row and backs allowing the French little freedom.

Yet only the most optimistic of English fans could have anticipated such a sound international performance from England.

Centre and captain Will Carling, scorer of their third try, said: "The reason we won was putting into practice the disciplined and complex game plan we have developed, which was adhered to perfectly today."

The pack was strong and firm in the set pieces, tight and fast in the loose and dominant in the lineouts. France were forced into giving away numerous penalties while England did not concede their first until the end of the first half.

With the Parc des Princes conquered, England will be out to prove at Murrayfield that Fouroux's assessment of the Scots is now better suited to them.

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Published by:
Dar Al-Sayassah

Editor-in-Chief
Ahmed Al Jarrah

Editorial Offices
Airport Road, Shuwaikh,
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait.

Telex:
22332 KT

Telephone:
4813566 (main lines)

Advertising:
4816328/7

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